

THE JOURNAL

Friday, December 5, 2003

50 cents (tax included)

Sports Kennedy team set to defend soccer championship [C1]

Arts Holiday gospel concert takes on Jamaican flavor [C12]

El Cerrito near top in crimes per capita

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Ky Kat-
noticed it. As the chair
of the El Cerrito crime preven-
tion committee, he's witnessed
an increase in crime here.
There are more calls for
inspections, for home se-
curity checks, more neighbor-
hood watch meetings," Kat-
said. "I think people are
concerned about a general
crime."

The city experienced a crime
spike again in 2002, ranking

it second per capita in Contra
Costa County, above San Pablo
but below Richmond.

Police Chief Scott Kirkland at-
tributed the increase to a coun-
tywide increase seen in vehicle
theft; the increase in the number
of retail businesses, which draw
crime such as theft and vehicle
theft; and El Cerrito's location.
Crime spills over from Berkeley,
Richmond and Oakland, he said.

El Cerrito had a rate of 7,172
reported crimes per 100,000 peo-
ple in 2002. That's an increase of
715 over the 6,457 reported

crimes in 2001.

Richmond had 7,706 crimes
per 100,000 people in 2002. San
Pablo had 6,573. By comparison,
Kensington had a 3,420 rate and
Albany had a 4,892 rate.

Berkeley had a rate of 10,319
crimes per 100,000 people last
year, higher than Richmond.
Richmond had 19 homicides;
Berkeley had seven. At the bot-
tom of the list of 20 Contra Costa
cities was Clayton, with 1,461
crimes per 100,000 people.

Like the rest of the state's
cities, El Cerrito has a crime rate

that fluctuates. It peaked at 9,272
crimes in 1991 and reached a low
point of 4,915 crimes in 2000.
The rate has been climbing since.

No homicides were reported
in El Cerrito last year. One rape
was reported.

The city rankings are based
on the proportion of crimes ver-
sus the population. The actual
number of crimes reported in El
Cerrito last year was 1,723. El
Cerrito has 24,000 people.

That number includes seven
arsons; 41 aggravated assaults —
assaults usually involving

weapons; 90 robberies, 223 bur-
glaries — unlawfully entering a
home, vehicle or business; 335
vehicle thefts; and 1,026 thefts —
such as shoplifting.

"What you're seeing is those
numbers are high, but at the
same token they're not as high
as 1980s or if you will, the 1990s,
until 1997," said Kirkland. "So
historically we've been higher."

For many years El Cerrito's
crime rate was second behind
Richmond, Kirkland said. That
changed in the early to mid-
1990s, when San Pablo took over

the number two slot. El Cerrito
switched rankings with San
Pablo last year.

The statistics were published
by the Federal Bureau of Inves-
tigations on Oct. 27.

Four of the top five highest
crime rates belong to West Con-
tra Costa County cities. Pinole
ranks number five. Pleasant Hill
is number four. Hercules ranks
14 out of the 20 Contra Costa
cities.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-
3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com.



TRANSIT Route 67 bus makes its way down Kenyon Avenue in Kensington.

MARK DUFRÉNE/STAFF

Kensington residents feel squeeze of larger buses

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

KENSINGTON — It seemed
overnight, said resi-
dents Egelston. For years,
transit vans for the 67
route, which navigates four
blocks in Kensington. In July, it
replaced larger vehicles.
Egelston said the new buses
were big and too polluting.

They're so big, they can barely
navigate through the narrow hill-
side roads. They use diesel fuel,
a known cause of asthma, Egel-
ston said.

At 39,000 pounds, they're also
much heavier. The buses may
have caused two water main
breaks on Trinity Avenue, said
resident Cheryl Katz.

"(AC Transit) could, in our

opinion, put the vans back on the
route, which would satisfy resi-
dents' needs, and it would re-
move our safety concerns," said
Katz. "Because the van did run
up here 10 years and nobody
complained about it. And now
that it's changed the van to a big
bus, everyone is complaining
about it."

The 67 route goes through

Berkeley and through Kensing-
ton along Beloit, Purdue, Kenyon
and Trinity avenues. AC Transit
plans to buy new vehicles, which
could take the form of hybrid-
powered buses in the fall of 2005.
But residents want to see a
change sooner.

"To me it looks like a waste

See BUSES, Page A9

Cerrito restoration comes into focus

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The weather
may be getting cooler, but things
are heating up again for the Cer-
rito Theater.

The Redevelopment Agency
is scheduled to consider allocat-
ing money for the project at its
Dec. 15 meeting. While exact fig-
ures weren't available at press
time, in April the city had es-
timated that the theater restora-
tions would cost between \$1.9
million and \$2.6 million.

Meanwhile, the Friends of El
Cerrito Theater, a 650-member
community group, wants to
brainstorm ways to raise an es-
timated \$300,000 to pay for his-

torical extras, including restor-
ing interior murals and building a
marquee.

The Friends meeting, set for
Dec. 9, will include a presenta-
tion of what the interior of the
building will look like as well as
inform people about how they
can get involved in its restoration.

"It'll be making some deci-
sions, to begin to look at what's
most doable to give you the most
bang for your buck," said Friends
of the Cerrito Theater co-chair-
woman Ann Lehman.

Lehman said she's never been
so heavily involved in a city pro-
ject before but felt the Cerrito —

See CERRITO, Page A10

Board demands peace in school redesign war

By Kara J. Shire
STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — Saying the
debate over where to rebuild El
Cerrito High School had deteri-
orated to a disturbingly low level,
West Contra Costa school board
members in a 3-2 vote Wednes-
day night, Dec. 3, refused to
choose a rebuilding plan.

The board instead urged com-
munity members to continue to
work toward a consensus, a goal
they had not reached during six
months of discussion.

"The issue is so out of prop-
ortion," school board trustee

Karen Leong Fenton said during
the Wednesday night meeting.
"People who are now at odds
with each other have to start
changing their attitudes."

Debate over two plans for re-
building El Cerrito High raged
for more than two hours during
a Wednesday night school board
meeting.

One group urged board mem-
bers to choose the "middle plan,"
which would move school build-
ings to the center of the 16-acre
campus.

See REDESIGN, Page A9

City suspends restaurant's entertainment permit

incident that took
officers to quell
the 90-day suspension
of the permit.

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Montero's
restaurant will be prohibited
from live music or a DJ
during the 90-day suspension
of its permit, after it al-
lowed a raucous party to get out
of control last month.

City Council voted 4-1 to
suspend Montero's entertainment
permit on Monday, Dec. 1.
Councilwoman Peggy
dissented, wanting a
revocation period.

The party could have been
worse and I do believe
it to be a consequence,"
she said.

Romo, the owner of
the restaurant at the corner of Solano
and Pablo avenues, said he

was victimized by a promoter
who has a history of throwing
hip-hop events that spin out of
control.

"We get tons and tons of com-
pliments of what it is we do," he
said. "That's why I'm surprised
I'm standing here."

About 50 to 60 police officers
from different agencies and a
California Highway Patrol heli-
copter dispersed a crowd of 200
that gathered at the Montero's
party and spilled onto Solano Av-
enue on Nov. 11.

Crowds cheered on fights that
broke out in the middle of the
street, according to police.
Romo's business was vandalized.
Barstools were thrown. One man
was arrested on suspicion of de-
laying and obstructing an officer.

Police cleared the crowds by
midnight, more than two hours
after the party started, police
said.

"I think the city was very very
fortunate that a lot worse did not
occur," said Police Chief Greg

Bone.

City staff said the event was
not allowed under Romo's en-
tertainment permit. The permit
only allows salsa lessons and
recorded music Friday and Sat-
urday nights from 8 p.m. to 1
a.m. and two flamenco shows on
Sunday nights, at 7 and 9 p.m.

City staff recommended that
the council revoke the permit for
a year.

Some members of the council
said the city has to support small busi-
ness as much as it can and sug-
gested a 90-day revocation while
Romo works out a process to
screen clients.

Councilman Allan Maris said
the city has to support small busi-
ness as much as it can and sug-
gested a 90-day revocation while
Romo works out a process to
screen clients.
Thomsen suggested a six-
month revocation. Romo said

that would result in lost cus-
tomers.

Romo maintained that the
promoter, Eugene Cockerham,
lied to him. While Romo tried to
shut the event down, Cockerham
continued to allow people in his
business even though it was
above maximum occupancy.

"He was a madman," Romo
said.

"I am a responsible person in
everything I do," he added. "This
is the first time this has happened
to me."

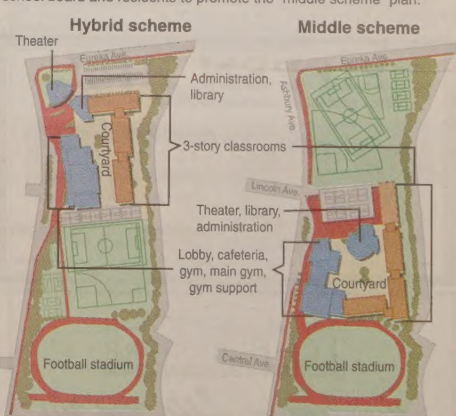
Ultimately, the council settled
on the 90-day revocation.
It would start at noon on Jan.
1, to avoid affecting the restau-
rant's holiday bookings.

"If I could just finish the New
Year's eve party," Romo said,
"that would be great."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-
3578 or at
alopez1@cctimes.com.

Rebuilding El Cerrito High

West Contra Costa Unified School District staff members are
recommending the "hybrid scheme" for rebuilding of the seismically unfit
El Cerrito High campus. It would keep the campus in the same area it
currently occupies. A group of parents and teachers are going to the
school board and residents to promote the "middle scheme" plan.



Source: West Contra Costa Unified School District

ADRIENNE JOHNSONTIMES

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Community Folk

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NEWS BRIEFS

Albany

St. Alban's Church will serve holiday tea

St. Alban's Episcopal Church will hold its annual Yuletide Tea and Boutique Sale on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 7 in the Parish Hall, 1501 Washington Ave.

The sale will offer collectibles, gift items, jewelry and baked goods. Tea will be served from 2 to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. For more information, call 510-525-1716.

Albany looking for many volunteers

The City of Albany needs volunteers for both long-term assignments and special events in a variety of city departments; at City Hall, at the Senior Center, at the Police Department, and more.

For more information, contact Ely Hwang, volunteer coordinator, at 510-559-7225 or ehwang@albanyca.org.

El Cerrito

Eat pancakes, help scholarship fund

The city's annual Holiday Pancake Breakfast to benefit the David Hunter Memorial Scholarship Fund will be held Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moers Lane. The breakfast includes a marionette show at 10:30 a.m. and a toy drive with barrels provided by the fire department. New, unwrapped toys can be donated to the drive and will be given to local children in need.

Tickets are \$8 per person, and include the marionette show. They may be purchased at the Community Center or charged by phone using a credit card. For more information call 510-215-4370.

City seeks input on boards, commissions

The city invites input from residents on its boards, commissions and committees at a study session to be held Monday, Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Tot Room at the Community Center, 7007 Moers Lane.

A council subcommittee has been reviewing the structure and process of these advisory groups for the past few months, and city staff has researched how they are run in other cities. Under scrutiny are such topics as the mission of the board, commission or committee, how meetings are run and how members of the groups see their role.

For more information call Karen Pinkos, assistant to the city manager, at 510-215-4302.

Celebration planned at new playground

The city will hold a grand opening and dedication of its new Castro Park Playground on Wednesday, Dec. 10 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. The park is located at 1420 Norvell. Children will have a chance to try out the play structures and rock wall as the community recognizes the groups and individuals that helped make the park possible. For more information call 510-215-4370.

Read 'Mistress of Spices' with book group

El Cerrito High School's book group, Page Turners, will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 14 at 7 p.m. in Room 604 to discuss "The Mistress of Spices," by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni. The 3-year-old group welcomes parents, students, teachers and siblings. The meetings are open to anyone in the El Cerrito school community.

For information call Paula Gocker or Joan Cone at 510-524-9560.

Hear 'Christmas Concerto' at KSO

Guest conductor Timothy Smith, chairman of the music department at California State University, Hayward, will lead the Kensington Symphony in a concert on Saturday, Dec. 13, at 8 p.m. at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Northminster Presbyterian Church is at 545 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito.

The program includes the works of Strauss, Corelli and Mendelssohn. The special holiday concert begins with Strauss' "Festival March," written when the composer was only 12 years old. Next will be the "Christmas Concerto" by Italian composer/violinist Arcangelo Corelli. Formally known as Concerto grosso No. 8, this work sets a pastoral scene for Christmas Day. Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 5 concludes the program. Called the "Reformation" symphony, it includes liturgical themes as well as the "Dresden Amen" that appears in Richard Wagner's Parsifal. Suggested donation: \$10; seniors \$8. Children free. Details: 510-524-4335.

Richmond

Friends of the Library sale set for Dec. 13

The Friends of the Richmond Public Library will hold a large book sale on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Richmond Public Library's MFW Community Room, 325 Civic Center Plaza. Proceeds from the sale will provide much-needed support for the library. Friends members will get in an hour earlier, at 10 a.m. The book sale will open to the general public from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information call 510-620-6561.

Berkeley

Menorah lightings, ice skating scheduled

Community menorah lightings will take place from noon to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, and at 4:45 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22, at Frank Ogawa Plaza in front of City Hall. Another lighting service will be held at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 23, at Cody's Book Store, 1730 Fourth St.

Chabad of the East Bay will host a family ice skating party at from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24, at Berkeley Iceland, 2727 Milvia. There will be kosher foods, arts and crafts for sale, as well as free dreidels and a Hanukkah gelt skate with Judah Maccabee for lighting the ice menorah.

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door; to reserve space or get more information, call 510-540-5824.

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West County schools put parcel tax on the ballot

By Kara J. Shire
STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — Looking for extra money to fund small class sizes, counselors and other programs, the West Contra Costa school board unanimously agreed Monday night, Dec. 1, to ask voters to approve a \$7.5 million annual parcel tax.

The election is March 2. "We now have a parcel tax," said school board president Pat Player. "Now we have to go about the work of having it passed. That is absolutely essential."

The measure, which requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, would levy a 6.8 cents-per-square-foot tax on all property within the West Contra Costa school district.

Based on the average West Contra Costa home size of 1,186 square feet, the average residential tax under the measure would be about \$80 a year. Residential property owners 65 years and older could apply for a tax exemption.

The vote ended weeks of community discussion over the proposed language of the parcel tax.

Some had lobbied for a more specific list of programs and services to be funded. Others had urged the school board to add a community oversight component to the measure.

"I know the language is broad to give you more flexibility," said Hercules resident Sue Prisco. "I would have preferred it be more specific."

West Contra Costa joins at

least five other East Bay school districts seeking local funding to support programs ravaged by rising health insurance costs and the state's continuing budget crisis.

Proceeds of the \$7.5 million in annual assessment over a span of five years would pay for smaller class sizes for primary grade students, textbooks and teaching materials, the recruitment and retention of qualified teachers, aides and counselors, enhancing core subjects and improving custodial service.

The tax will be subject to an annual independent audit.

Parcel tax supporters know the election will be an uphill battle. West Contra Costa voters defeated a \$450 million school construction bond in September and

have never approved a

In 1988, a \$125 per parcel tax measure was narrowly defeated by West Contra Costa voters. Despite warnings that the measure could leave the district bankrupt.

In 1992, after the Contra Costa school district averted bankruptcy by a \$100 million state bailout, voters per parcel tax also narrowly defeated a two-thirds majority

Voters did approve a \$100 million Maintenance and Replacement Assessment District. Property owners pay \$5 million annually for maintenance and other

ALBANY POLICE

Monday, Nov. 24

■ **OAKLAND WARRANT** — Officers stopped a purple '94 Honda near Buchanan and Pierce streets and arrested the driver, a 48-year-old El Cerrito man, for an outstanding Oakland warrant in the amount of \$1,000.

■ **ASSAULT** — At about 4 p.m. officers responded to Solano and Neilson avenues on reports of a male subject who had an injury from an AC Transit bus door. The 20-year-old Albany man was arrested for assault and two counts of delaying or obstructing an officer.

Tuesday, Nov. 25

■ **LIVERMORE WARRANT** — At about 11:30 p.m. officers arrested a 21-year-old Albany man driving a silver '81 Chevrolet near Ensenada and Capistrano streets for a vehicle code violation. He was arrested for an outstanding Livermore warrant and taken to Santa Rita Jail.

■ **CAR STOLEN** — Thieves stole a blue '96 Oldsmobile from a garage on the 1300 block of Solano Avenue.

■ **STOLEN CAR RECOVERED** — The Contra Costa Sheriff's office reported locating a brown Honda Civic that had been stolen Oct. 21 from the 800 block of Curtis Street.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — At about 10:30 p.m. a resident on the 1100 block of Curtis Street reported that thieves had just smashed the rear window of her black Volkswagen Jetta and stolen items from inside.

Wednesday, Nov. 26

■ **NO-BAIL WARRANT** — At about 4:30 a.m. officers stopped a gold '89 BMW near Sixth and Page streets for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 48-year-old transient woman, was arrested for a Contra Costa no-bail warrant and taken to the Santa Rita Jail.

EL CERRITO POLICE

Wednesday, Nov. 19

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — Someone stole a champagne-colored 2002 four-door Nissan from the 11000 block of San Pablo Avenue between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 20

■ **BURGLARY** — Someone entered an apartment through an unlocked door on the 1600 block of Lexington Avenue between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and stole a stereo and a DVD player.

Friday, Nov. 21

■ **ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN** — Be-

■ **COMPUTER STOLEN** — During the morning hours thieves stole a computer from a residence on the 1500 block of Posen Avenue.

■ **INTRUDER LEAVES HANDGUN** — A resident on the 900 block of Neilson Street reported that when he arrived home at about 12:30 p.m. he found that someone had broken into his home. He also found a handgun on a counter that appeared to have been left behind by the intruder.

■ **LICENSE PLATES STOLEN** — Thieves stole the license plates off a red '90 Chevrolet Camaro that was parked on the 1200 block of Brighton Avenue.

■ **INTOXICATED** — At about 4 p.m. officers arrested a 38-year-old Albany man on the 400 block of Stannage Avenue who was intoxicated and unable to care for himself. He was charged with disorderly conduct.

■ **LICENSE PLATES STOLEN** — A resident on the 900 block of Solano Avenue reported that the license plates from his blue '97 Honda Accord were missing.

■ **VANDALISM** — Vandals keyed a green '95 Toyota 4-Runner on the 600 block of San Carlos Street and poured paint over the vehicle. There were no witnesses.

Thursday, Nov. 27

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — At about 2 a.m. officers arrested a 29-year-old Richmond man near Washington and San Pablo avenues for disorderly conduct and delaying an officer. He was cited and released.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night thieves broke into a gold '89 Honda on the 1200 block of Dartmouth Street by smashing the rear wing window.

■ **UNSUCCESSFUL THEFT** — Thieves broke into a red '90 Toyota parked on the 1200 block of Brighton Avenue in an unsuccessful attempt to steal the stereo.

tween 10 a.m. Nov. 21 and 11:30 a.m. Nov. 22, someone pried at the door of a storage shed on the 7800 block of Potrero Avenue but was unsuccessful in making entry. This is the third time someone has burglarized or attempted to break into this shed.

Saturday, Nov. 22

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A green 1992 Honda Accord was stolen from the 2000 block of Carquinez Avenue between 10 p.m. Nov. 22 and 10 a.m. Nov. 23. It was later recovered by Richmond police.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — Someone stole a green 1995 Honda Civic from the 700 block of Colusa Avenue between 4 and 6 p.m.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone broke into a silver '87 Honda Accord parked in a parking garage on the 1100 block of Cornell Avenue.

Friday, Nov. 28

■ **HOME BREAK-IN** — A resident on the 700 block of Jackson Street reported that thieves attempted to break into his residence during the night. There were no witnesses.

■ **DOMESTIC DISPUTE** — At about 9 a.m. officers responded to reports of a loud physical altercation on the 900 block of Solano Avenue. They found a man on top of a woman and hitting her. They arrested the 23-year-old Albany man for felony assault and released him on \$30,000 bail.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night thieves broke into a car parked at 535 Pierce St. and stole items.

■ **BERKELEY WARRANT** — Officers arrested a 46-year-old Richmond woman on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue for an outstanding Berkeley warrant for no stop lamps on the vehicle, no proof of insurance and failure to appear in the amount of \$2,846. She was cited and released. Her red '89 Ford Escort was towed.

■ **ASSAULT** — At about 6:30 p.m. an Albany resident reported that while walking near Masonic and Portland avenues he was attacked by a group of five to seven men or boys who took his wallet and shirt. They were last seen getting into a dark-colored vehicle and drove off.

■ **EGGING** — Vandals threw eggs through a window on the 900 block of Kains Avenue and broke it. The resident attempted to chase the subjects but was unsuccessful.

Saturday, Nov. 29

■ **SUSPENDED LICENSE** — Officers arrested a 50-year-old Vallejo man near San Pablo Avenue and Gilman Streets for driving with a suspended

license and false tags on his vehicle was towed.

■ **LAX AIRPORT WARRANT** — About 5:30 p.m. officers arrested a white '83 Toyota pickup near San Pablo and Washington avenues for a vehicle code violation. The 34-year-old Oakland man was taken to have an outstanding warrant for a drug violation. He was

■ **DUI ACCIDENT** — At about 3:30 a.m. officers responded to a Buchanan streets regarding a Ford pickup and involving two vehicles. They arrested the 53-year-old Berkeley man and two counts of drug possession.

Sunday, Nov. 30

■ **THEFT ARRESTED** — At about 3:30 a.m. officers arrested a 46-year-old Richmond man near San Pablo and Cleveland avenues who was found to have numerous items suspected were stolen. He was arrested for possession of stolen property, possession of burglary tools, resisting officers and counts of drug possession.

Summary

During the week of Nov. 24 through Nov. 30, police responded to four cases, responded to false alarms, attended to deceased animals, assisted people who were locked out of homes or cars and responded to three reports of barking dogs. Domestic arena officers responded to 12 civil disturbances and 10 assists. Officers issued 37 citations and warnings. Firefighter responded to three fire calls and medical emergencies.

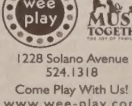
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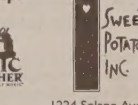
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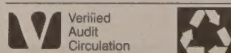
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Neighbors

ACES & PLACES

The shuttle has been launched in Albany. That would be an earthbound shuttle, providing rides for holiday shoppers as part of the holiday transformation of Solano Avenue, says Albany Chamber of Commerce Executive Director James Carter.

The shuttle started service Saturday, Nov. 29 and runs along Solano Avenue, up San Pablo and Solano avenues and back, making frequent stops.

Albany's old-fashioned holiday season celebration also includes live entertainment, an inflatables jump house and, of course, a parade from Santa, Carter said. The jump house will be found on the jump house strip on Saturdays, next door to Zari's Deli on Saturdays.

Last-minute shoppers should find their spirits lifted a bit from 4 p.m. on Dec. 24, when the San Francisco-style trolley decorated with holiday lights will do a loop along the UC Village-Solano-San Pablo route.

That's not enough to tempt shoppers, there is free two-hour parking on Solano and San Pablo avenues through Jan. 2. For more information visit: www.albanychamber.org.

■ ■ ■
Marie Marks-McQuade of El Cerrito wants like anything to compete in the 2005 Winter Olympics in figure skating. But the 11-year-old athlete's dream is on hold because of school and the time to practice. Marie's dedication to that sport, however, led her back to skating and to a second-place finish in the Dream Challenge, a competition of radio station 94.9/104.9's show "The Dream" with Kathy Fettkie. KNEW is back in twice-a-week format at Berkeley Iceland.

The 90-day contest started with hundreds of applications from people of all walks of life who were challenged to make their dream come true. They were put into groups with team leaders and given personal coaches to help them surmount obstacles to accomplishing their goals.

The winners were announced on Sunday, Nov. 23. First place went to a Concord woman who wanted to start a Montessori school.

■ ■ ■
Earlier this month, El Cerrito High sophomore Lauren Burkhardt, of Kensington, won third place in the Japanese Speech Contest held at the Consulate General of Japan in San Francisco.

Lauren's Japanese 3 teacher Nobuko Satake enthusiastically wrote us, leading her e-mail with "I have great news."

The Nov. 9 contest for students at junior and senior high schools commemorated the 150-year relationship between Japan and the United States. Students from 13 Bay Area schools participated. Lauren was one of only four who delivered her speech, entitled "Real Country and Real People," without any notes.

"Her speech really made us think how important it is to learn about other countries," Nobuko wrote.

■ ■ ■
The results of the 84th annual Ina Coolbrith Circle Poetry Contest were released recently and several area



Burkhardt



MARK DUFRENE/STAFF

AL CARUSO of the Albany Rotary Club slaps a numeral "two" over the "one" on one of Solano Avenue's parking signs in Albany — free parking on Solano and San Pablo avenues will stay at the two-hour limit through the holidays.

residents took honors.

The local winners in the Oct. 25 contest were **Cherise Wyneken**, of Albany, first honorable mention for long free verse; **Maggie Morley**, of Kensington, third honorable mention for short poems.

Ina Coolbrith, who became the first poet-laureate of California in 1915, was the first librarian of the Oakland Public Library and the person who nurtured the literary interests of a directionless young man named Jack London.

Point Arts Guild members stay true to their roots

WHEN THE Point Arts Guild holds its winter show in Point Richmond, there will be a great deal of nostalgia associated

The Guild was started in 1954 by Donna Roselius, then a member of the artistic community. Through the years, many of the original members have stayed away, until only five remain. Interestingly, none of them still live in the Point. They are still the Point Arts Guild and the Point is their focus.

Albro, one of the original members, now lives in El Cerrito. The rest live around the Point, in Richmond, El Cerrito, etc., she said, but remain faithful to their origins at the Point.

Albro who alerted me to the Guild promises to be a very good show. There will be a variety of art offered, including ceramics, including pit sculpture, ceramics; jewelry, gourd masks, carvings; knitted scarves; painters; oil and pastels; jewelry and silk accessories; and photography. Says Albro: "Come and see a relaxing few hours in the Point Richmond. It's a great show. Stroll through the downtown area, through the quaint old-fashioned small-town feeling. Visit local shops and, of course, see the Point Arts Guild show and sale." Which sounds like a very good plan.

The sale will be held this weekend and next.

Learn about the Guild and



CLARA-RAE GENSER
Community Folk

the people in is, Albro says most have jobs or careers, but they keep their artistic side alive by working together and supporting each other. They do pit fires together, as well as raku. They sponsor workshops, participate in local art shows and sales, plan excursions to local galleries and art shows and have two shows a year of their own. They are interested in recruiting as new members artists who do original, hand-crafted work that is designed, executed and finished by the artist.

Born in San Francisco, Albro and her family moved to El Cerrito just after World War II. She attended Castro, Portola and El Cerrito High School (her son, Theodore, she says, has gone the same route). She attended UC Berkeley where she studied architecture. She worked at the Richmond Museum of History, and later at the ACCI Gallery in Berkeley. She stopped working when her son was born, but has a ceramics studio in her home, where she does her creative work.

Albro says she always wanted to live in Point Richmond, and that is where she and Ron moved after they were married. They lived there for several years until her mother decided to move into a senior residence. Teresa and Ron

ART SALE

WHO: Point Arts Guild

WHERE: 117 West Richmond Ave., Point Richmond

WHEN: Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6-7 and Friday, Saturday and Sunday Dec. 12-14. The hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADMISSION: Free

INFORMATION: 510-237-6225

bought her home and have lived in El Cerrito for 10 years.

Albro's husband supports her work, as does her son. In other activities, they have remodeled two homes. Theodore, 16, is active in music programs

at El Cerrito High.

An enthusiastic person, devoted to her work and the Guild, Albro looks forward to their show/sales each year with great anticipation. She promises that this will be a very special one.

To find out more about the show or the Point Arts Guild, call Barbara Brown at 510-237-6225.

Do you know people, places or groups in El Cerrito, Albany or Kensington that would make good subjects for this column? If so, write me at 555 Pierce St., No. 443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 510-525-4585. My e-mail is crgenser@aol.com.

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Albany crossing guard was longtime friend to children

IF YOU DRIVE by the corner of Talbot and Solano in Albany, you'll see a makeshift memorial — a photo and a few flowers — to Ethel Hansen, the city's first school crossing guard (she held Badge No. 1), who died Nov. 7.



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

For 33 years she shepherded the little ones across busy Solano Avenue to Cornell Elementary School. But she did much more than just keep them safe. She helped them with their homework while they waited for their parents to pick them up after school. She gave them a friendly shoulder to cry on when they were feeling sad.

Even after they left Cornell, she watched over them. Every year, she'd buy a yearbook from Albany Middle School and Albany High so she could keep track of how all "her kids" were doing.

She became a familiar fixture on the street. UPS drivers, delivery truck drivers, cops, letter carriers and ordinary citizens would yell out a hello or honk their horns.

You might think the love she lavished on other people's children meant she was overcompensating for having no kids of her own. But the truth was exactly the opposite. She was one of those rare souls who had enough love for everybody, especially her own family.

And they loved her right back, from her 47-year-old son Dale, who has cried every day since she died, to her 2-year-old great-grandson Trenton, who keeps asking plaintively why he can't go see Grandma anymore.

Her granddaughter, Erika Black of Oakland (Trenton's mom), remembers when she was a little girl and Grandma would feed her every morning because Erika's parents had to get to work too early.

"She'd bring me breakfast in a shoebox, including a thermos of hot chocolate and my favorite, Swedish pancakes. Her shift started at 8 o'clock, but I didn't have to be inside until 8:30. So I'd sit in her warm car, eating my breakfast, watching her conduct the other kids across the street."

After school, Erika would keep Grandma company on her afternoon shift. To pass the time, Grandma devised a little game: making up words from

the letters on her stop sign. "Needless to say, I did well on vocabulary tests in school," Erika laughs.

Ethel Hansen was born Dec. 27, 1917, in Berkeley. She was a tomboy who excelled at baseball, softball, and "Nipping the Dinky" — catching illegal rides by jumping on the cowcatcher of the half-scale trolley car, popularly known as "the Dinky," that ran on 6th Street. "She was a bad girl!" Erika says proudly.

She attended Berkeley High with fitness pioneer Jack LaLanne. Later, as recreation supervisor at John Kinney Park, she once wiped the nose of a scrappy little ballplayer named Billy Martin.

She met her future husband, Ted Hansen, on a blind date and married him in 1947. They lived happily until his death in 1984. They never had much money, but they always made sure the living room was piled high every Christmas with presents for their three children — David, Dale and Sharon — even if it meant stinting themselves for months beforehand.

At her funeral, they displayed her Badge No. 1, her orange crossing jacket, her stop sign, and the old folding chair she used to sit on while waiting for the children. Some of those children — now grown up with children of their own, whom she also helped cross — showed up to say farewell.

A fund has been established to erect a more permanent memorial to this remarkable woman: a bench on her old corner at Solano and Talbot. If you'd like to contribute, donations can be sent to the Ethel V. Hansen Memorial Bench Fund, Acct. No. 139545743, Albany Mechanics Bank, 801 San Pablo Ave., Albany, CA 94706. If more money is raised than needed, it will go to Albany SchoolCare, just as she would have wanted.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or msnapp@cctimes.com.

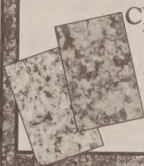
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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

Bad penny, good decision

ONE WOULD think that Eugene Cockerham's reputation would have preceded him in Albany. The party promoter's get-togethers have ended in vandalism, violence — and at least twice, homicides, police say — in other East Bay cities often enough to make him well-known to law enforcement agencies from Sacramento to San Jose.

But Juan Romo, who owns the Solano Avenue restaurant Montero's, apparently didn't have a clue. He told the City Council as much at Monday's meeting.

One would tend to believe him; no business owner in his or her right mind would invite Cockerham to their place to put on even a tea party if they knew his history. And in the cases where there has been violence, from Clayton to Vallejo — and now Albany — the venue owners never have known to expect it, apparently.

The promoter himself never seems to break the law. But the crowds who show up to his parties do. According to police the event he organized at Montero's on Nov. 11 attracted patrons who ended up fighting in the street, throwing bar stools and vandalizing the restaurant. It took some 50 to 60 police officers from several jurisdictions plus a CHP helicopter to get things under control, and there was at least one arrest.

Romo was aghast. So, properly, were Albany officials. Montero's is better known as a place to see flamenco shows and take salsa dance lessons, with occasional hip-hop or R&B parties — not hosted by Cockerham — in the mix. Romo told the City Council that nothing like this had ever happened at his place before, and that he was a responsible businessman.

The lack of prior complaints seems to back this up. At the same time, city staff pointed out that his permit didn't allow for such an event, and that he could have talked to Albany police to find out more about Cockerham.

But he would have only thought to do that if Cockerham had aroused suspicion, and by all accounts, the promoter's proposals sound perfectly innocent. Cockerham himself has claimed his intentions are good, and that the problems begin when the parties are shut down early, whereupon frustrated partygoers get rid of their anger by looting and fighting.

Though the city staff recommended Romo's entertainment permit be revoked for a year, the council agreed to a 90-day revocation, which will start at noon on New Year's Day — so it won't interfere with the restaurant's holiday business.

Considering all the factors involved, we think the City Council took a wise course of action. As Councilman Allan Maris said, the city has to support its small businesses.

Montero's is clearly one that should be supported. It's a distinctive and stylish anchor for the corner of Solano and San Pablo avenues. And Romo is credible when he says he had no idea what he was getting himself into.

At the same time, Albany has every right to expect its entrepreneurs to be savvy about the Cockerhams of the world and to shoulder responsibility for what goes on in their places of business. The council action demonstrates that it's serious about this.

Just because a business — or a city — is small, doesn't mean it can afford to be naïve.

THE HOLIDAY SHOPPING COUNTDOWN BEGINS



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Delay and diffuse tactic

As the two very large and unwieldy meetings on view and tree matters make abundantly clear, view preservation and tree planting/preservation are huge issues of great importance in El Cerrito.

That the City Council should sidestep and wash its hands of this issue and that the Tree Commission should stop functioning, as provided for in existing ordinances, are unconscionable actions.

While the meetings provided the useful function of demonstrating how important the issues are, they did little other than diffuse the issue with still more "study" — the standard procedure for delaying action in our city.

One has only to review the refusal of the City Council to use appropriated, scheduled funds for the removal of Monterey pines in Canyon Trail Park but, instead, relegate the matter to "further study," as a striking example of standard procedure.

Planting and maintenance of these prohibited, dangerous species violate all provisions of the existing ordinances and, yet, no remedy is applied. (Strict legal interpretation of the existing ordinances might find that the city itself is exempt, but it most certainly should not be.)

The two most important observations I made in the recommendation group I was assigned to were (1) the apparent attempts to turn the conflict between those who believe they should be able to plant anything they want anywhere, and those who would preserve their view, as a sort of class warfare, and (2) the wish of some tree planters to have a "gradual" approach under an urban forestry plan.

It is not a class conflict. When one takes ownership of a hillside property that has a view, one has the right to have that view continue. The view is an aesthetic and monetary addition to the property that cannot logically be denied. Those who would plant as they wish ignore the fact they are not "out in the country" but are instead on a very small lot, smack up against thousands of other similar lots.

The "gradual" approach chooses to ignore the fact that while gradual studying and planning are supposedly happening, the trees are already in place and growing and, in most cases, growing very rapidly.

Trees don't do "gradual." This approach is the standard delay and diffuse tactic.

Tom Smithberger
El Cerrito

Saving lives in the long run

It was a great moment for me to see President Bush visit our troops in Iraq on Thanksgiving Day. This proves he is the greatest world leader of the 21st century and his goal is to protect us from terrorism.

He wants freedom and prosperity for all Americans and he uses every bit of his brilliance, honesty and energy to achieve world peace.

America was attacked on Sept. 11, but Bush's leadership has stopped terrorists from any more major attacks. This is difficult because America is so free, but homeland security has worked. This is amazing because so many politicians have not cooperated and even condemned our security act.

It's tragic to have even one of our American troops die at war in Iraq and I mourn for the 400 Americans who have given up their lives to protect us and fight

for world peace.

I heard Rep. Pete Stark condemn Bush and scorn him for our loss of 400 American lives. He also referred to the 57,000 American lives we lost in Vietnam, which is tragic. But Stark has never done anything about the 71,000 murders (mostly from gangs) we have suffered here in California since he was elected.

Ella Jensen
El Cerrito

Virtual overload

If we seek it — in the national and local media, in smaller publications of real merit, from speakers with factual first-hand information about any number of very real concerns — we can become a very informed people.

There is an avalanche of vital information should we choose to step towards it. We can differ in opinions and consequences (global warming, NAFTA, the cruelty of factory farming, the necessity of invading Iraq) and still be remarkably well-informed. Yet I wonder, given the ever-expanding powers of the already very powerful, what good this knowledge is.

I cannot effect change of any substantial worth. I may vote, talk with friends, write this letter, but essentially remain powerless. Go to the zoo. Every animal is endangered.

With the gathering of such information, am I a better citizen? This is a rationale often put forward. We are encouraged to be informed, but why? For that virtue alone?

There must be a saturation point in which people with real concerns simply shout, "Forget it; I cannot alter these demons that may come." I am closing in on that resignation now. One can do nothing, really, with the lone exception of serving on a jury, except to learn about how powerless we are.

How can being able to know so much help so little?

David Lugin
Richmond

I wish!

John Muth claims that "most media writers are liberal Democrats" (Letters, Nov. 21). I wish!

Unfortunately, he is only perpetuating the myth that the so-called "liberals" dominate the media in the Bay Area.

Most people get their news from TV and radio, which is dominated by the conservative Fox and Clear Channel and by major networks, whose own financial interests coincide with global corporations behind the news.

Take heart, Mr. Muth; there is plenty of right-wing media to go around.

Kay McArthur
Albany

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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Unresponsive in Albany

I applaud Albany resident Stan Snider for her tenacity in confronting the city about its poor landscape maintenance on Buchanan Street and Key Route Boulevard. I know how difficult it is to deal with City Hall.

I complained for a whole year about the unsightly litter left by Albany High School students in front of my house and on the median at Key Route. I finally gave up due to their lack of response.

I wrote letters to the so-called "mayor" of Albany, who didn't answer me back. Instead she handed me down to a powerless person at Parks and Recreation who claimed the city did not own the land on the medians, so was not responsible for their maintenance.

I wrote letters to the school superintendent, who promised to do something about the litter, but never did. I complained to the high school principal, who came out to look, but was unimpressed with my problem and unresponsive.

I have even brought bags of trash to the school office to show them that along with the aluminum cans, fast-food bags, soft drink and coffee cups, I also find empty beer cans, cigarette butts, alcohol bottles and drug paraphernalia.

None of this changed anything. When I went to the city offices to see what the law Albany has against littering, I was told by the assistant city administrator that is what you get for moving closer to the school. That is when I realized what kind of bad attitudes prevail at Albany City Hall.

Now, from time to time, I will pick up the trash myself. But I am a busy person and this is not my job!

I hope Snider can prevail over the city so we can all enjoy a clean, beautiful environment that can make us all proud of where we live.

Owen Tan
Albany

Descriptive headlines

Along with more than 100 other Albany residents, I attended the Planning and Zoning Commission workshop on Nov. 18.

Without exception, every speaker opposed the current proposal to amend the General Plan to change eight blocks of Kains Avenue and Adams Street, which are currently residential, to a C2 highway commercial district renamed "San Pablo Commercial."

While city staff seemed open to consider the wishes of the residents, their comments some of the commissioners indicated an unwillingness to incorporate changes to the proposal. I was writing an account of the meeting. I might choose from the following headlines:

"Despite strong community opposition, Planning and Zoning commission considers changing residential streets to C2 highway commercial."

"Commissioners promote residential development on San Pablo Avenue, but does that require rezoning adjoining residential blocks to commercial?"

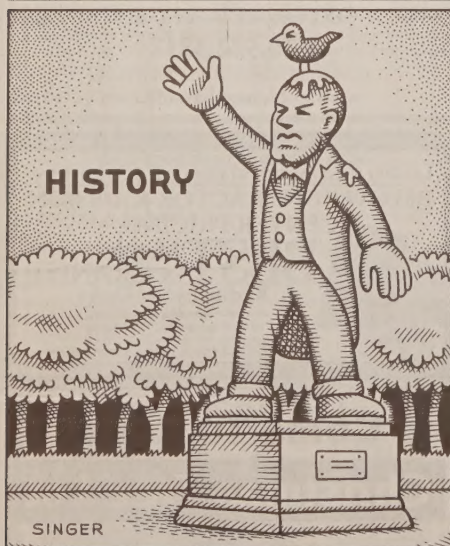
"Commissioners prefer fewer 'unmanageable' businesses on San Pablo Avenue, but current proposal will permit them to be what are now residential streets."

If the Planning and Zoning commissioners feel these statements are inaccurate or unfair, I welcome their responses.

Ed Fink
Albany

NO EXIT

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YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

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costa.ca.us.

Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

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Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

Imparting help on parting with books

Quote of the week:
"Dreams, books, are each a part of the world, both pure and substantial, with tenderness as flesh and blood. Our pastime and our happiness will grow."
— William Wordsworth, 1793-1850



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

Turkish to Danish to Russian to Urdu. Or maybe the four shelves of mysteries, or the 25 copies of Christmas carol books I've managed to accumulate, or the range of home repair books, including one published in 1962.

Of course, I also have piles of library books around, too — and those are the ones I am actually reading. Since I spend most of my days surrounded by books of every kind, it would probably make more sense to own a few books and borrow them instead from the library. In fact, I know several librarians who do just that. But I do both.

I asked a friend recently about her books. Do you have some in boxes and some on shelves? I asked. "Mostly out," she said, "on shelves, in stacks, everywhere." Why? I asked. Why do we do this if we know

there is no way we could read or reread them all? "I like living in a house full of books," she told me.

I realized that is true for me, too; having books around me makes me feel secure, like having a full pantry. And if I have the time, I can browse at home. I can pick up a book of poetry or flip through the collected works of Jane Austen or be awed once more by the photographs of Cartier Bresson.

For me, books are a kind of wealth, and as I look around, I see how rich I am.

READER REVIEW: Today's book review is from Chantal, and the book is "Mary, Bloody Mary" by Carolyn Meyer. Chantal says this book is about "Mary Tudor and her struggle to regain the throne when her father, King Henry VIII, remarries and declares her illegitimate." One word she would use to describe this book is "intriguing" and she recommends it because "of its amazing detail, even though it's written in Renaissance times."

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@aol.com or at the Albany Library.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Make a Japanese Daruma doll at the Albany Library on Dec. 6: The next free drop-in craft event at the Albany Library will be to make these wish dolls, part of the Japanese New Year celebration. The dolls are made so they always right themselves when they are knocked over — teaching the value of perseverance. Roberta Gould, an Albany resident, teacher and craft book author ("Making Cool Crafts & Awesome Art: A Kids' Treasure Trove of Fabulous Fun") will teach this event. For all ages.

Also at Albany: Toddler Times — storytimes for children ages 24 to 36 months, are coming back to the Albany Library. The new series runs through Dec. 15, Monday afternoons at 3 p.m. Call soon for sign ups: 510-526-3720 (children's desk).

Also at the Albany Library: Second Wednesdays are drop-in Poetry Writing Workshops, for all ages, led by Alison Seevak. The next one is Dec. 10, from 7 to 9 p.m., also in the Edith Stone Room.

Second Saturdays are drop-in Poetry Writing Workshops for grades 4-8, also led by Seevak. December's is Dec. 13, from 2 to 4 p.m. The December event will be the final event for Second Saturdays.

urdays.

All three events are free and ongoing. Light refreshments will be served.

The Albany Library is at 1247 Marin Ave. and is a branch of the Alameda County Library. Information: 510-526-3720 ext 20.

The El Cerrito Library invites children ages 3 and up and their families to a special family story time entitled "Penguins, Polar Bears and Snow" to be held on Saturday, Dec. 13, at 11 a.m. After listening to these winter stories, and joining in some songs and stretches, children will each make a waddling envelope penguin to take home.

Also at El Cerrito: Children in grades 1-6 are invited to read books and earn prizes by participating in the El Cerrito Library's "I Love to Read" club this winter. To participate in the club, which is sponsored by the Friends of the El Cerrito Library, each child needs to pick up a reading record at the library, and use it to list 10 books he or she reads between Dec. 1 and Feb. 28. The reading records are then to be returned to the library any time during the month of February for display on the library's bulletin board. Each finisher will receive a paperback

book and two Hershey's Kisses.

The El Cerrito Library, a branch of the Contra Costa County Library System is at 6510 Stockton Ave. For information, call the library at 510-526-7512. Also at El Cerrito: Cathy Ann Taylor, expert guide from Mountain Travel Sobek, will do a slide presentation of travels through Nepal, Tibet and Bhutan Thursday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. Free.

You can learn the basics of the Internet at the El Cerrito Library's beginning Internet workshops. Practice computer mouse skills, set up e-mail, search the Web, locate library materials in the online catalog, and find the information you need in the library's databases. The workshops are held on alternating Saturday mornings from 10 to 11 a.m.

Call 510-526-7512 to sign up. The El Cerrito Library is at 6510 Stockton Ave. For information, call 510-526-7512.

The Kensington Library holds Family Storytimes for all ages on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. (except when special programs are scheduled). The Kensington Library is at 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707-1098. Phone: 510-524-3043

ALBANY PTA NEWS

Albany High School

Receive the daily bulletin and announcements by e-mail. Linda Okamoto at ltopm@earthlink.net
Dec. 10, AHS Chapter of Albany Music Fund Meeting, 7 p.m., Band Room
Dec. 11, Choir Winter Concert, 7:30 p.m., AHS Little Theater

Albany Middle School

Dec. 5, Book Fair starts, 12:30 p.m., AMS Library
Dec. 9, Book Fair Evening, 6-8 p.m., AMS Library

Cornell Elementary School

Receive the daily bulletin and announcements by e-mail. Contact Barbara Grady-Ayer at gradyayer@aol.com

Marin Elementary School

Receive the daily bulletin and announcements by e-mail. Kym Sterner at kymsterner@earthlink.net

Ocean View Elementary School

Dec. 6, Craft Fair, for booth rentals call Pam Reed at 510-526-4053

AUSD Board of Education

Dec. 9, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

AUSD Calendar

Dec. 22-Jan. 2, Winter Break (no school)

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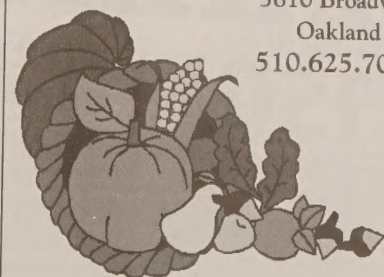
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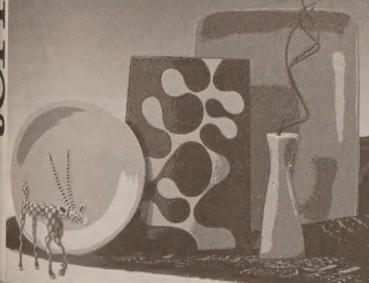
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1960s UC president shaped system

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and Liz Tascio

STAFF WRITERS

Clark Kerr, a visionary who built the University of California into an education system envied around the world, died Monday in his El Cerrito home after complications from a fall.

He was 92.

As president of UC during the tumultuous 1960s, he was exoriated by the right for not cracking down on the Free Speech Movement at Berkeley, which ultimately cost him his job at the hands of then-Gov. Ronald Reagan. The left criticized him for the university's collaboration with government and Kerr's view of UC's mission: to produce skilled professionals for an industrialized society.

Among notable achievements, he was the architect of California's 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education, which delineated roles and resources for UC, California State University and the community colleges in a way that no other state had ever attempted.

He was also responsible for building three of the nine campuses in the UC system: Santa Cruz, Irvine and San Diego.

"He was a man who ... had this tremendous commitment to principle combined with a political shrewdness that you do not often find present in one person," said Neil Smelser, an emeritus sociology professor at UC Berkeley who wrote the forwards to Kerr's two-volume memoir, "The Gold and the Blue." "He was absolutely unwavering in his commitment to the ideals he had, the vision he had, for higher education and especially California higher education."

Kerr was born in 1911 in Stony Creek, Pa., and raised on a farm. A Quaker, he attended Swarthmore College. He later earned an economics doctorate from the UC system.

He joined the UC Berkeley faculty in 1945 and was appointed Berkeley's first chancellor in 1952, a position he held until 1958. In this role, he was key in ushering in a system that gave campuses more autonomy.

"The decentralization was not an easy task by any means," said Assistant Chancellor John Cummins, who described Kerr as "very quiet, very unassuming, but somebody who was so smart and so insightful, no matter what he said, people paid very close attention to it."

Kerr served as president of the UC system from 1958-67. He struggled with the mounting campus unrest at UC Berkeley and the Free Speech Movement, which began in 1964.

Kerr "had the distinction in the middle of the '60s of being opposed by Ronald Reagan on the right and student activists on the left," said Charles Wollenberg, author of "Berkeley, A City in History" and history teacher at Vista College in Berkeley. "By the time he was fired, basically, he had lost the confidence of both."

Because most political activity was forbidden on campus, students had been paying the city \$2 to set up tables on the sidewalk at Bancroft and Telegraph. In fall 1964, it was discovered the space actually belonged to the school, not the city.

Kerr, who had a hero's reputation among students for standing up for his professors and oth-

CLARK KERR

■ **BORN:** May 17, 1911 in Stony Creek, Penn.

■ **DIED:** Dec. 1, 2003

■ **KERR GAINED** attention in 1950 for fighting for the reinstatement of professors who had refused to take the Loyalty Oath. He was named the first chancellor of UC Berkeley in 1952 and served until 1958, when he became president of the UC system. Kerr was the architect of California's Master Plan for Higher Education, which in 1960 outlined specific roles for UC, California State University and community colleges as no other state had done before. The Free Speech movement erupted under his watch, and he was fired by the UC Regents in 1967 when conservatives accused him of being lenient toward student activists. Kerr recently published a two-volume memoir about his time with UC, "The Gold and the Blue."

ers in the 1950s against the House Un-American Activities Committee, was out of the country then. Had he been present, the Free Speech Movement might not have materialized because Kerr would have found a diplomatic solution to the conflict, said David Goines of St. Hieronymus Press in Berkeley and a sophomore at Cal in 1964.

Kerr's appointees at Berkeley handled the sidewalk dispute by enforcing the ban on political activity. When Kerr returned, he made the mistake of backing them, Goines said.

Within a few weeks, students had stopped calling for their right to assemble at Bancroft and Telegraph and began to demand the right to organize anywhere.

During this time, the FBI was keeping a file on Kerr and blamed him for permitting the unrest. Reagan, campaigning for governor, promised to clean up the Berkeley campus. In 1967, as president of the board of regents, he orchestrated Kerr's firing.

As president, Kerr was responsible for creating a powerful higher education system with clear roles: UC as the selective research university that accepts

the top 12.5 percent of high school graduates, CSU as a teaching institution that accepts the top third and the community colleges, which are open to all.

"Without a system that provided access to all levels but at the same time, a level of quality with an emphasis on research and merit, you just would not have a system like we do now," said Cummins.

Kerr leaves behind his wife Catherine, three children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was surrounded by his family when he died, said his granddaughter Amber Kerr. She remembers him for his outstanding kindness and fairness towards others. A powerful figure in California politics, he was the playful "tickle monster" to his family, which he always placed first.

"He never made a show of his own ability and actions," Amber Kerr said. "He came across as the most sincere and genuinely kind person I've ever known."

In his memoirs Kerr quoted Theodore Roosevelt, who said "The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena ... that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

BUY, BUY, BUY: Many deadlines approach to purchase Gauchos gear and help out many activities at El Cerrito High School.

For instance, **El Cerrito High Cheerleaders and Booster Club** is selling Gaucha stadium blankets. Made of 100 percent, top-grade, heavy-duty cotton grown and milled in the United States, the custom blankets are machine washable and dryable, and measure 50 by 70 inches. Each blanket is \$45 and comes with a clear vinyl carrying case.

The deadline has passed to order blankets in time for the holidays, but final orders — for blankets to be delivered after the holidays — are being taken until Dec. 8. Details: Michele Jawad at MjawadEc@aol.com.

Also, **Gaucha Cards** are available for \$10 from an EC Girls or Boys Soccer player, or you can mail your order to the address above. Sale ends Dec. 7.

TOP TALKERS: El Cerrito forensics students participated recently in the league tournament held at UC Berkeley. The varsity policy team, **Randy Pang and Tony Tran**, received a trophy for their 3-1 record. Varsity **LDER Amit Gressel** and Junior Varsity **LDER Gaby Baker** both had 3-1 records. Amit is a sophomore and Gaby is a freshman. Randy, Tony and Amit will represent El Cerrito in Salt Lake City this month at the Alta Silver and Black Invitational.

Jennifer Che and **Charlie Sirchuk** also won prizes and provided helpful support to the team. The team thanks Annie Pang, a dedicated debate parent

who helped out with the tab room at this tournament and to coaches and judges, Nina Rocco and Joel Jacobs.

COLLEGE ROUND: Many seniors have brought in their counselor recommendation requests early. Almost all private colleges require a counselor recommendation as part of a Secondary School Report form. Counselors need at least 10 school days to complete these forms and write the letters. Seniors need to fill out a "brag sheet" available in the counseling office and return it with the Secondary School Report for each college.

The deadline is past for applications due Dec. 15. Next up: Anything due

before Jan. 10 is due in the admissions office by Dec. 8.

CORRAL THAT COWBOY! The Gaucha Corral, the community's quarterly newsletter, is looking for a sports page contributor. Needed is a candidate who is enthusiastic, either a student or a parent, and who will collect information and highlights from the community. Send a resume to Michael Collier, maccollier@comcast.net, three months — e-mail preferred. The deadline for the Winter issue is Dec. 15. — from the El Cerrito High School

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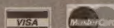
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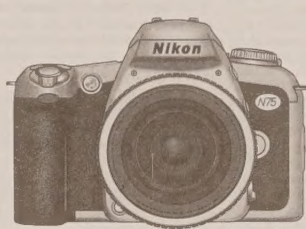
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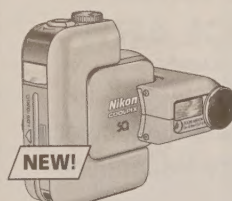


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design

PAGE A1
middle plan was en-
18-6 by the school's site
and has been backed
parents and the Parent
Student Association.
The group lobbied for
"middle plan," now called
"north plan," which calls for
the school on the
north plan is backed by
district staff and many
others.
Plans for both plans are
to be about \$100 mil-
lion. The middle scheme
costing in \$2.5 million
than the north scheme.
The board is saying to the
community, come up with a
plan we agree on and we'll
do it," said school board
member George Harris III.
If they can't, we'll have
a horrible decision and

a lot of people will be mad and
we'll have to deal with the con-
sequences."

Many students told board
members that teachers and stu-
dents would transfer out of the
school if the middle scheme was
not chosen. One student said
her "life would be ruined" if the
north plan was picked.

"What is the most important
part of a school?" asked El Cer-
rito High student Brian
Mertens. "The neighbors? The
EPA? No. It's the students, and
they want the middle scheme
and you have to give it to
them."

School board members gave
the El Cerrito High site com-
mittee until Jan. 7 to reach a
unanimous decision on a re-
building plan. If consensus is
not reached, the board said it
will intervene with a decision at
that time.

Reach Kara J. Shire at 510-262-
2798 or kshire@cctimes.com.

as clean as they can.

"They're not the cleanest
buses we've got but they're not
the worst," said Gleich. "They're
old vehicles, too, and they're be-
ing retired when we get these
new ones."

In the meantime, Gioia's of-
fice is awaiting the results of a
pavement study to see if the
weight of the buses is a problem.

Gioia also wants to find out
who rides the bus and at what
times, and if there is any way to
cut back on service, said Kate
Rauch, a district coordinator for
Gioia's office. The intent is to
mitigate the impact of the large
buses, while still maintaining the
service for those who need it.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-
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Kids

FROM PAGE A7

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forests, and raging river rapids, and
over towering peaks and plunging

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sal desire to fly. See the country from
on high, floating over the Vermont
landscape and Niagara Falls in a he-
lium balloon. Thrill to the precision of
the Blue Angels and hang glide above
Hawaiian Islands.

"The Human Body," ongoing. This new
show explores the daily biological
processes that go on in the human

body without our control and often
without our notice. This amazing story
is revealed in detail on the giant screen.
"The Living Sea," ongoing. The film cel-
brates the beauty, power and impor-
tance of the ocean. Produced in asso-
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Cerrito

FROM PAGE A1

an art deco theater that operated from the 1930s to the 1950s — was worth it because it adds an artistic and cultural sense to the city.

"It kind of classes up the whole environment," she said. Referring to an open house in 2002 that drew 3,000 people, she added: "I think what people felt was nostalgia and community-building and a sense this was sort of special and worth preserving. There's not a lot of things you can point to in El Cerrito that has that historical perspective."

Not everyone is so enthusiastic.

Non-supporters include former mayor Ken Berndt and his wife, Pat, who questioned how the theater is going to make money. The Albany Twin Theater, about two miles away, already plays similar types of films, Ken Berndt said.

And even if people do attend the Cerrito, critics ask, where are they going to park?

"I don't think it's economically feasible," said Ken Berndt. "I don't think it'll attract enough people to pay for it. Two: If a lot of people come down there, and find a lack of parking, they're going to leave, anyhow."

"A lot of people who came to the opening, came from Albany and Berkeley, and they thought it was really terrific stuff but we don't know they're all going to come back and support it," Pat Berndt said.

The Planning Commission approved a use permit for the project that included eight spaces behind the building. That's an exception to the city's municipal code that calls for 65 to 119 parking spaces for buildings used for public assembly.

El Cerrito planning manager Jennifer Carman said the city is in talks with other businesses for a shared-parking agreement. Nothing is set in stone, she said.

"If you or I bought property, we would have been laughed out of the planning commission just because of lack of parking," Ken Berndt said.

"That combined with problems the city is having now on their finances, I think there's something better they could use to spend their 2 or 3 million dollars on," he added.

Lehman agreed that the theater probably won't make a lot of money but will draw people to the area.

"There are people who feel the theater is a business like any other business and should be able to generate its own income," Lehman said. "I don't personally think that's the case. These kind of theaters don't make a lot of money."

"Historic buildings don't generate money in and of themselves," she added. "If it's something people think is worth preserving, it's something you have to spend money on."

THEATER DATES

WHAT: Visit the art deco Cerrito Theater, gaze at the historic murals, hear from the restoration architects, find out how the theater will operate — and learn how to help restore it.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9

WHERE: The Cerrito Theater, 10070 San Pablo at Central avenues

INFORMATION: www.cerritotheater.org

ALSO: The redevelopment agency also is scheduled to consider allocating funds for the Cerrito Theater restoration on Dec. 15. For more information, call 510-215-4380.

The redevelopment agency bought the former Cerrito Theater on a wave of public support in June 2002. The friends of the theater, essentially a well-organized e-mail list at the time, lobbied for the city to save the building.

The redevelopment agency has since entered into a development agreement and lease that would have Speakeasy Theaters — the operators of the Parkway Theater in Oakland — operating the business as a two-screen theater with beer, wine and food sales.

Speakeasy also would operate a cafe connected to the theater.

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ater on its north corner. The theater is located on San Pablo at Central avenues.

The preliminary agreement says Speakeasy will spend \$175,000 to renovate the theater's kitchen. The redevelopment agency could pay for the remainder of the renovations in the form of a loan that is expected to be paid back by Speakeasy over 25 years.

The redevelopment agency is scheduled to decide how much

to loan Speakeasy as well as how much to allocate for renovations on Dec. 15.

After that, "the architects would start doing construction drawings, it would go out to bid and we would start building," said redevelopment manager Lori Trevino. "That's the way it should flow, anyway."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

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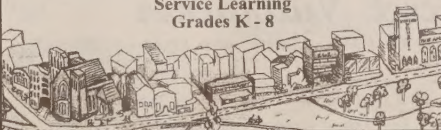


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Stop the Politics of "Unlimited" Development!

The City of Berkeley has turned into a developer's dream, with massive new buildings totaling thousands of units -- far more than our regional "fair share." What you see now is only the tip of the iceberg. Neighbors for Sensible Development is challenging this free-for-all in the California Court of Appeals. We are a grassroots group of over 300 Berkeley residents opposing a complex at 2517 Sacramento Street that is 5 times the maximum residential density of the applicable General Plan. Our issues have a city-wide impact. We are fighting for a better quality of life for all of Berkeley, and we need your help.

Defend Environmental Quality Protections.

Under California law an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared if there is any substantial evidence of potential environmental impact. 2517 Sacramento abuts the site of a former gas station with leaking underground storage tanks. The engineers admit contaminated soil and water remained after tank removal, and cleanup of MTBE and other chemicals was never completed. Yet the City of Berkeley approved the project, including low-income housing, without an EIR and without even requiring the soil to be tested for contaminants.

Say NO to "Unlimited" Density

Against all notions of rational urban planning, the City of Berkeley has adopted the extreme position that residential density is unlimited in many parts of the city. This is a recipe for disaster, and flies in the face of State of California law requiring all cities to adopt maximum density standards for each zoning district.

How You Can Help

Donate! Fighting City Hall and its big developer friends is VERY expensive for ordinary citizens like us. Please help by sending a contribution to Robert Baum, Neighbors for Sensible Development, 1532 Blake Street, Berkeley, CA 94703. Anonymous donations are accepted. Make your voice heard! Tell the Mayor and City Council to stop trampling on neighborhoods and violating environmental protections for the benefit of "unlimited" development. Stay informed! To request updates send email to mtrcb@pacbell.net, or call (510) 849-4619.

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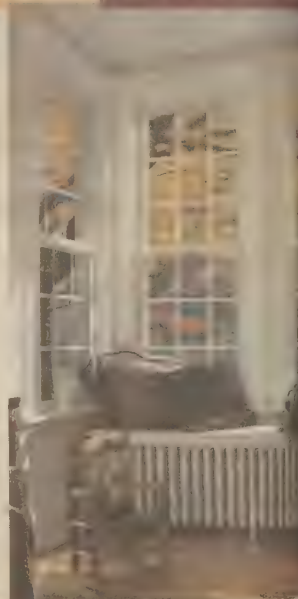
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Section B

6137 La Salle Avenue, Oakland

Real Estate Spotlight:

Fabulous view home in the Oakland hills



THIS WONDERFULLY MAINTAINED and recently refurbished home is located at 2020 Leimert in Oakmore, one of Oakland's most desirable neighborhoods. Built in 1953, of the Traditional architectural style, the home has a fabulous floor plan that flows perfectly for entertaining. From the living and dining rooms, you can see the San Francisco, and Oakland skylines, as well as the bay and three bridges. A massive, elegant granite fireplace is the focal point of the living room, and new carpeting, and paint soften and warm the entire living space. The home includes four bedrooms — one is a master suite — and three full baths.

Downstairs is set up comfortably for in-law or an extended family, or for your older stay-at-home student. There are two new decks, one off the living room, maximizing the spectacular view, and the other an enormous deck off the lower level.

Price: \$759,950.

The home will be held open to the public this Sunday, Dec. 7 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Listing agents: Sue Kabalin, 925-469-5085, or Peter Fletcher, 510-521-1177, Windermere Properties of the East Bay.

Does it (still) make sense to refinance?

As fixed and adjustable interest rates continue to level out, still at 40-year lows, more and more people are thinking if it makes sense to refinance their mortgage.

There are two broad reasons to refinance:

1) To reduce your interest rate, term of your loan and (possibly) the payment or to switch an adjustable to a fixed-rate (a no-cash-out refi).

2) To use some of the equity in your property for home improvement, debt consolidation, investment or whatever (a cash-out refi).

Whatever your reason to refinance, the first concern should be whether the costs justify the results.

The costs of concern are the non-recurring closing costs. They include the loan origination points (a point is 1 percent of the loan amount and is also known as "prepaid interest" — the higher the points, the lower the interest rate), fees for processing, appraisal, credit report, escrow, title, underwriting, drawing documents, funding and assorted miscellaneous escrow functions.

Excluding the loan origination points, a good rule of thumb is that the non-recurring closing costs should run about 1.5 percent of the loan amount for loans of \$150,000 and higher.

The percentage is somewhat higher for smaller loans and somewhat less for loans greater than \$400,000.

What about all those advertisements for "no-cost" loans that you've seen on television and in the newspapers?

A no-cost loan simply carries a high enough interest rate so that the lender essentially finances the costs over the life of the loan. The borrower will have a loan amount equal to the principal payoff of the current mortgage(s), but the interest rate will be much higher than when the borrower finances the costs by adding the loan costs to the principal payoff and increasing the new loan amount.

Surprisingly, as long as there is adequate equity in the property, financing the costs to obtain a lower interest rate and increasing the new loan amount will reduce the payment over a no-cost loan.

The general formula for figuring if paying the non-recurring closing costs makes sense as part of the refinance is easy. The costs are divided by the payment savings to equal the number of months it will take before you break even and have paid off the costs.

Consider our borrower Joe. Joe has a loan balance of \$250,000, reduced from the original amount of \$260,000. His current mortgage is a 30-year amortized adjustable-rate mortgage at 8.5 percent (and the rate seems to be rising every month).

His current principal and interest payment is \$1,999. His home is



worth \$500,000, but he is only interested in reducing his payment, getting a low fixed rate and he does not want to come up with any cash out of pocket.

So, although his payoff is at \$250,000, non-recurring closing costs with 2 points for loan origination plus accrued interest on the old loan makes a new loan amount of \$258,750. The 2 point loan interest rate is 5.75 percent. The new principal and interest payment is \$1,510.

The difference between the old and new payment is \$489. The closing costs, including the prepaid interest are \$8,750. When you divide \$8,750 by \$489 you get 17.89 months or 1.49 years to break even. So, as long as Joe plans to keep his home for more than a year and a half, it makes sense to refinance.

See SENZIG, Page B4

REAL ESTATE MAILBOX

Editor,

I usually enjoy glancing at the Tarpoft and Talbert column in the Berkeley Voice since it often is informing and/or entertaining. The Nov. 17 column, however, vehemently appalled and upset me, and is causing me to write this letter. I strongly protest the unencumbered public endorsement of a "use once, then throw away and don't care about the impact" society.

Intentionally or thoughtlessly, the article seems to advocate a dangerously careless attitude towards the environment and to the spirit of giving. Furniture, puzzle games and other items can easily be donated, or at the very least recycled appropriately. And refrigerators, due to their coolants and other chemicals, should never go

into mixed landfill; instead there are special programs and organizations collecting them. It struck me as very ironic that after this ode to throwing stuff away indiscriminately, the page layout next had a box saying "Please recycle."

While I agree with the spirit of uncluttering and can possibly even understand some joy in the crunching sound of a garbage truck, sending unneeded items to the landfill without considering and using alternatives — especially here in the Bay Area where plenty exist — seems almost criminal, given the impact the authors have on the behavior of a larger readership.

Perhaps the authors could publish a list of resources other than the landfill that can help people get rid of their stuff as easily as possible. I would be happy to contribute to such a list. I am a member of the local recycling center and have seen the impact of recycling on the environment. I am a member of the local recycling center and have seen the impact of recycling on the environment. I am a member of the local recycling center and have seen the impact of recycling on the environment.

ple get rid of their stuff as easily as possible. I would be happy to contribute to such a list. I am a member of the local recycling center and have seen the impact of recycling on the environment. I am a member of the local recycling center and have seen the impact of recycling on the environment. I am a member of the local recycling center and have seen the impact of recycling on the environment.

Nature

FROM PAGE B1

that matched the rocks, wood flooring reminiscent of the taupe of the tree bark, and she worked with the natural greens of the oak trees. She always remembered the guiding principles, as the house began to emerge and grow from the peaceful external environment. There was no conflict between inside and outside, and flow was undisturbed.

Not wishing to disturb the magical "sleeping giant" of the site, trees were carefully tied back during construction, the foundation was cantilevered over the tree roots so that the ancient oaks could gracefully embrace the outside of the master suite. Indeed, being an old quarry, it was a fairly challenging building site. The house and landscaping were carefully placed in and around the rocks.

It was not a square house sitting on top of a hill but rather a house that flowed with the terrain. Again, to balance the rugged rock quarry feel, the environment needed water sounds. Kathrin designed and built a series of ponds with tiny waterfalls and luscious landscaping. There are no fences around the house so the deer and other animals come to the oasis ponds every day. In fact, it seems as though the ponds have always been there.

Kathrin says the house is like a living sculpture to her — both harmonious and beautiful. She insists on living around beauty, harmony and order and is very disciplined about establishing those qualities wherever she goes in the world. The house was uniquely designed with a master suite at one end of the house and a large guest suite at the other end. The entire second floor is her art studio where all her creativity occurs — painting, sculpture, and retreat planning. The house can easily accommodate 150 people for large parties or shrink down to a

very cozy environment for just Kathrin and her husband.

After completing this huge house-building project, Kathrin continued to march right along with her creative juices and began to organize artistic retreats for women. These began in her lovely home studio then gradually expanded to sanctuaries all over the world such as a 16th-century French villa in Provence, a world-class villa in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, and the Mabel Dodge House, an historic monument in Taos, New Mexico. She has also naturally expanded her retreats into life coaching, assisting people to make tremendous breakthroughs in their lives.

When we asked Kathrin to share some of her thoughts, here's what she had to say.

"First, all life is about creativity. Your house needs to support you in your chosen creative endeavor — cooking, sewing, gardening or raising plants, or writing. Your home must nurture you in your creativity."

"Choose pieces carefully for your home. Sometimes, I have taken years to acquire certain pieces. I love the quality and elegance of timeless pieces; McGuire is one of my favorite furniture designers — the selections have a timeless and elegant quality."

"I also have some real antiques, and a few scattered eclectic pieces such as a Taos drum that I use as a coffee table and an old Chinese chest that I adore."

Life is about... Your house... support... chosen creative endeavor... sewing, gardening... raising plants... writing. Your home must nurture your creativity.

"Take risks! We need to build our house but we want. We pushed for what we wanted. So my advice is to take risks."

"Remember to always love to use our home in garden shows, housewarming parties, etc. It makes us feel happy. It's all about happy. You have to go for it. Dreams are concrete. For further information, active retreats and life Kathrin Parsons can be reached at rushstudios@earthlink.net."

Judith Glass and Sabrine can be reached at 5055 or at www.Glass.com.

Hymen

FROM PAGE B1

monthly payment as low as possible for the period of time that she owned two homes.

Although she preferred fixed-rate financing, it made sense to take advantage of the lower ARM payments for the short time that she'd keep the second loan. You must be able to qualify financially in order to use this strategy. And, if you do use this approach, make sure that the second mortgage doesn't have a prepayment penalty.

Some buy-first buyers put a home equity loan on the home they're selling to generate cash for a down payment if they don't have

enough savings for a down payment and closing costs.

THE CLOSING: To minimize the risk of buying first, be realistic about the probable selling price of your current home. It's better to estimate on the low side and walk away with more cash than you expected than it is to be caught short of the money you need.

Dian Hymer can be reached at 510-339-4777 or by e-mail at Dian@Dianhymer.com.

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style. But typewritten letters with multiple carbon paper copies? I doubt it.

Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoff are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 653-2050 and at www.tarpoffandtalbert.com.

PLEASE RECYCLE
THIS NEWSPAPER.

Senzig

FROM PAGE B2

But Joe wanted to compare a no-points loan as well. The interest rate would be 6.75 percent, the loan amount would be reduced to \$256,000 and the principal and interest payment \$1,660. Although still a considerable savings with a difference of \$339 per month, it still takes about 11 months or just under one year to break even.

A no cost loan would carry and interest rate of 7.25 percent. The loan amount would include prepaid interest on the new loan and ac-

rued interest on the old loan. The new loan amount would be \$252,000. The principal and interest payment jumps to \$1,719. Again, Joe still saves money — \$273 per month — but as he told us, he really doesn't want to refinance every year and start over at 30 years again. So Joe is sticking to 5.75 percent and 2 points.

That is, unless next year the rate drops to 4.75 percent, then we'll see you again Joel! Another reason they call it "Mortgage Madness."

Karen Senzig can be reached 510-339-8511 or by e-mail at Ksenzig@aol.com

Backup

FROM PAGE B3

likelihood of experiencing a backup in their homes. Additionally, up to 5,000 free backup prevention devices (BPDs), are being made available to homeowners residing in a growing number of ABAG PLAN member communities. Eligible homeowners will receive a free BPD along with instructions for


self installing it, as well as links to locally licensed and insured contractors participating in the program who have agreed to make installations at low rates. Any homeowner, regardless of residence, can take advantage of the Web-based information, tools and contractor and other links found on the Web site.

The program's Web site also offers easy-to-understand information about homeowners' sewer systems and their responsibilities, as well as simple "Be Sewer

Smart" Do's and Don'ts Tips for maintaining a trouble-free connection. The sewer backup risk assessment test, along with other useful sewer maintenance tips are all located at The Web site www.sewersmart.org.

Quick Open Pre-Appraisal
www.fairmarket.com

First Open in Oakland!
OPEN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2-4:30PM



4356 Bermuda Avenue
Nice all level ranch style home with 3 bedrooms, and 1 bath. Located in a lovely, quiet area with hill views. Will need updating and paint but a great opportunity at a great price. Roof approximately 7 years old. Detached garage. Cute rear yard. Close to transportation and shopping.

Offered at \$399,500
"As Is"

Diane Earl McCann
RE/MAX REALTORS & LAUREL SPECIALIST
(510) 338-1352

Wendy Gardner Ferrari, CRS
BROKER ASSOCIATE
(510) 338-1303

PACIFIC UNION
CMAC #04-1-1411

just ask our clients
pacunion.com

Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc.
REALTORS

521-8181 523-1010

OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4
1317 GROVE ST., ALAMEDA VINTAGE WOOD CHARM. 4 bedrooms, 1+ baths, bright kitchen, hardwood floors, formal dining room, built-in china hutch. Basement entry from hallway. Backyard with vast possibilities. \$680,000.
Ron Bang, 510-748-1110.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
2117 ENCLAVE AVE., ALAMEDA COMPLETELY RENOVATED HOME. 4 bedrooms (includes master suite), 3 baths, large living room, formal dining room and family room. \$648,000.
Moon Tam, 510-747-1620.

NEW LISTING
10631-10633 INTERNATIONAL BLVD., OAKLAND. Great mixed-use investment property with upside potential. 2 retail, 3 apartments great parking lot. Oakland/San Leandro border. Upgrades in last 3 years. Asking \$418,000. Doh Gonsella, 510-459-7623 or gonsella@pacnet.net for packet and showing.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
2441 OTIS DR., ALAMEDA FABULOUS LARGE FAMILY HOME. 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths, plantation shutters, hardwood floors. New paint inside & out, new roof, new fireplace & chimney. Detached workshop. \$880,000. Tony Staten, 510-748-1125.

1619 - 46TH AVE., OAKLAND SIX STUDIO UNITS. Great starter rental, off street parking and close to BART \$369,000. Troy Staten, 510-748-1125.

3627 MANGEL'S OAKLAND CLOSE TO 5800. 2+ bedrooms, 1 bath, detached garage with workshop, hardwood floors, fireplace. \$349,000.
Kitty Wan, 510-748-1128.

311 4th STREET #125, OAKLAND GREAT GROUND FLOOR LOFT. Located in the warehouse district with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Excellent industrial space conversion. \$395,000. The McGraw's, 510-748-1111.

SALES - RESIDENTIAL - INCOME - COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT - RENTALS - PROPERTY MANAGEMENT - 522-3322
Sales@AlamedaRealEstate.com GallagherandLindsey.com

HARBOR BAY REALTY
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510-523-1110
885 Island Drive, Alameda
hbrhomes.com

El Sobrante
\$578,000 34 La Paloma Ct. Mediterranean built in 2002! 4+ bd, 2.5 ba and family room. Very spacious den/loft upstairs. Large lot, cul-de-sac location. Donnaluci 510-814-4826

Oakland
\$210,000 877 42nd St. One of the original live/work properties. Living area above a former business. Corner location with many possible uses. Jeff 510-814-4885

Hayward
\$339,000 2213 Oak Creek Dr. 3 bedroom end unit. Fireplace attached. **PENDING**

Montclair
\$749,000 152 Glenwood Dr. 1+ acre. 4+ bedrooms. 3+ baths. Hardwood floors. **PENDING**

San Leandro
\$295,000 2511 Gallatin Ave. 3+ bath bright home. Laundry, garage. **SOLD**

San Lorenzo
\$675,000 2146 Harwood Blvd. 2.5. Family. Fireplace. **PENDING**

San Francisco
\$339,000 5151 Diamond St. 3+ bedrooms. Bay windows. **PENDING**

Oakland
\$285,000 884 42nd St. Cute 1 bedroom, 1 bath single level bungalow with yard and garage. Formal dining room could be used as a second bedroom. Steve 510-814-4888

San Leandro
\$369,000 5427 Brookdale Ave. Split level 2bd bung. finished basement. Upgrades Maryann 510-814-4873

San Leandro
\$399,000 2865 Morcom Ave. Park Home. 1+ acre. 3+ bedrooms. Family room, formal dining room. **PENDING**

San Leandro
\$449,500 2331 23rd Ave. Duplex: both 2 BD, 1 BA units. Low maintenance, very bright, Pergo floor, tile floor in kitchen area. **SOLD**

San Leandro
\$462,500 1024 Wood St. Open Sat. & Sun. 2-4. Beautiful Victorian - Spacious w/5BR, 2BA. Formal dining, in-law w/entry. Kathy 510-814-4706

San Leandro
\$548,000 13383 Campus Dr. Choice lot with panoramic views. **PENDING**

Prudential California Realty

FEATURED HOMES

Charming Triplex \$605,000
3 unit building in good condition in Albany. 3 garages, hardwood floors, laundry. Carol Heath-Kim (510) 527-9800.

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$595,000
488 Fairbanks Ave., Oakland. Near Piedmont, this Craftsman's Craftsman is carefully restored. 3+BR, 2+BA. And a wonderful creative garden! Barbara Reynolds (510) 868-1487

OPEN Sat & Sun 1-4 \$495,000
1905 Tapscott, El Cerrito. 3 BR, 1+BA has great view, large yard & many upgrades. John Forrest Bell (510) 834-2010

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$475,000
3221 Blandon Rd., Oakland, X Golf Links. 3 BR, 2 BA. Anne Risk (510) 428-0900

Oakland/Piedmont
OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,399,000
5763 Scarborough. Spectacular, new 4+BR, 3.5 BA construction w/ views. Heidi Marchesotti (510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,095,000
6820 Thornhill. Stunning 4+BR, 4 BA Mediterranean in private setting. Howard Converse (510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$970,000
6773 Sobrante. Brand new 3+BR, 2.5 BA construction! One of a kind! Kriss Makris (510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$659,000
4349 Briar Cliff. Wonderful 4 BR, 4 BA including au-pair with fabulous views. VikkiLandes.com (510) 339-9290

Montclair Cottage \$625,000
Gardens, view, 3 BR, 2 BA cozy remodel. Nancy Platford (510) 845-0211

Oakland/Piedmont
OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$475,000
3221 Blandon Rd. X Golf Links. 3 BR, 2 BA. Anne Risk (510) 428-0900

OPEN Sunday 2-4 \$429,000
4006 Lincoln Ave. New listing! Sunny 2 BR, 1 BA with hardwood floors and nice yards. Sharon Ho (510) 845-0211

OPEN Sunday 1-4 \$329,000
1 Embarcadero #165. 2 BR, 2 BA, large balcony with park and water view. Janesta (510) 868-1400

Victorian Cottage \$265,000
West Oakland. 2BR, 1BA. High ceiling, original. Garage, laundry, hrdwd flrs., lovely back yard, EZ BART, EZ fwy. Cynthia (510) 868-1549

Berkeley/Albany
OPEN Sunday 12-3 \$449,000
1809 Sacramento Street. First time on market. 2 BR, 1 BA. Reina & Isabel Soto (800) 347-1356 x2807

Contra Costa
Golden Gate View! \$1,900,000
Pano views on 3/4 acre in Kensington, 2 lots, private, gated views! Lillie Braudy (510) 644-5262

Sacramento
Elegance Here \$685,000
5BD, 4BA, 4090 Sq. Ft. on .36 of an acre. In-ground sportpool too! Stephanie Petuya (916) 478-7110

Residential Income
Fruitvale Duplex \$389,000
2 BR/1 BA, 1 BR/1 BA. Real owner or tenants. Spacious! Laundry hookups/sep meter. close to BART & freeway. Cynthia (510) 868-1549

Lot For Sale
OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$495,000
"O" Wildcat Canyon, Berkeley. rare lots. Soils report, lake view. Fabulous! Candice/David (510) 868-1549

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800-499-5553

ALAMEDA 510-337-8670 **BERKELEY REGIONAL 510-868-1400** **CLAREMONT 510-845-0211** **EL CERRITO 510-527-9800** **GRAND LAKE 510-834-2010** **MONTCLAIR 510-339-9290** **PIEDMONT 510-428-0900**

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Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the real estate community and related industries.

FOR THE PUBLIC

The holidays would be less memorable for many area residents if not for the generosity of real estate professionals. In its 17th year, the North Bay offices of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage teamed up with the United States Marine Corps Reserve, to make Toys for Tots gifts be distributed. This year CB has collection centers at their offices. Anyone can drop off a wrapped toy and it will be

distributed to a needy child. Area residents who wish to participate are encouraged to contact their local Coldwell Banker office.

WEEKEND FUN

Visit Santa

Independent Real Estate Brokers invited Santa Claus to help them with their annual Toys for Tots Drive. IREB's Santa Day is from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 6. Santa's Castle will be set up at the IREB Corporate offices on Leveille Boulevard in Hayward. Visit with Santa and receive a free photo. Bring a new, unwrapped toy to help make a needy child's Christmas happier. Local firefighters, who distribute

the toys, relayed the need for more items, for ages 12 to 16. Independent Real Estate Brokers has offices throughout the state, including Alameda and Oakland. For drop-off information contact Project Coordinator Jackie Ruiz at 510-276-7900.

Historic Holidays

The Alameda Museum invites everyone to glimpse the spirit at "Visit Holidays Past."

**Quick Over-The-Net
Pre-Approval
Visit:**

www.OaklandHomeLoan.com

Agent, RedMax

View the holiday baubles at the historic Meyers House Museum and Gardens from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. tomorrow and Sunday. The furnishings and decor of the

Meyers House, a Colonial Revival enhance the Christmas display.

For more information about the event, call the museum at 510-523-5907.



BOBBIE REID
Credit Worthy

SPECTACULAR VIEW LOCATION

1905 Tapscott Avenue El Cerrito

Located just blocks from El Cerrito del Norte BART Station, this custom built home is just high enough up the hill to capture a spectacular view to San Francisco, the Bay and the Bridges.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

- Three bedrooms, updated full & half baths
- 3rd bedroom can be family room / guest suite
- Hardwood floors
- High, open beam ceilings on main level
- Newer appliances and many upgrades
- Two car garage with interior access
- Terraced yards with drip irrigation system

This home is meticulously maintained, and one you won't want to miss!

Offered at \$495,000

John Forrest Bell

(510)834-2010 Office

(510)305-4014 Cell

(510)287-9856 VM

**OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY
DEC. 6TH & 7TH 1-4PM**

No City Transfer Tax



Prudential
California Realty

JUST LISTED

CROCKER HIGHLANDS FIXER UPPER

Great opportunity for a contractor in search of a charming older home in a highly desirable neighborhood. 3+ bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, formal dining room, sunny exposure and level back yard. This English style home requires extensive renovation, but has a lot of potential. Shown by appointment only.

Offered at \$425,000

Dian Hymer, CRS

Associate Broker

#1 agent Oakland/Piedmont office

510-339-4777

Website: dianhymer.com

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

MONTCLAIR

5946 COLTON BLVD.

Exceptional Montclair Monterey Colonial Style Home

Stunning Bay, City, and Bridge views await as you enter this elegant home. Large living room, wood floors and fireplace, dining room and kitchen with French doors opening to large deck. Two bedrooms and one bath upstairs and full bath and rec room with fireplace downstairs, opens to large backyard that beckons to gardeners and flower enthusiasts alike and makes this a very special place to call HOME for the HOLIDAYS!

Offered at \$699,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

Tour at www.donnaconroy.com

**OPEN HOUSE
1:00-4:30 PM**

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS

NEW LISTING

Stunning Gated Estate in Berkeley

A gated and very private estate in a convenient neighborhood near the Claremont Hotel. Situated on 1.25 landscaped acres with tennis court, pool and gracious lawns. French Country designed and built by W. R. Yelland (circa 1927).

Offered at \$3,150,000



DEBRA J. DRYDEN CRS

BROKER ASSOCIATE

OFFICE: 339.0400/208

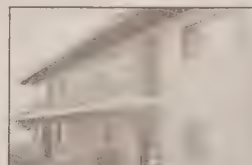
dryden@grubbc.com

GRUBBCO.COM



Visit GRUBBCO.COM for
Photo Tours
of this and other current listings.

SIDE-BY-SIDE FOURPLEXES



1710 & 1716 Sutter Avenue, San Pablo

All 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, super clean, some updated kitchens and baths, some newer carpets and lino, plenty of off-street parking, several vacancies, but excellent income when rented. SELLER IS MOTIVATED. Offers presented as written.

Asking \$549,000 each

Charles Goldstein, Realtor®

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www.elcerrito.com

realtor@elcerrito.com



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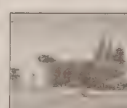
BERKELEY \$799,000

6-Units in 2 Buildings.
Nice unit mix Good sized lot.
Some separate utility meters.
Nearby to Ashby BART & Berkeley's
Historic Lorin District. CALL!



BERKELEY \$1,100,000

BERKELEY 6-Unit Apartment!
6-2 BD Units, ALL VACANT!
Owner recently completed lots of
remodel type work.
Property shows extremely well.



N. OAKLAND \$850,000

Commercial w/4 retail stores
large corner lot w/ high VISIBILITY
& high TRAFFIC count.
Currently, Café - Cleaners - Beauty
Salon - One VACANT Owner Use ?
Plenty of off street parking.
Call on this wonder!



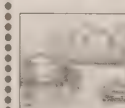
OAKLAND \$355,000

VICTORIAN DUPLEX w/ 2BD lots on large lot.
Non-conforming detached 3rd unit used
as art studio/workshop.
Also approved plans for two-story home
in rear. Close to Transportation and Freeway.



RICHMOND \$220,000

Check this one out- 2BD/1BA Circa 1912
Craftsman. Looks nice.
\$21k Section 1 pest report.
Purified for 1st timers
Call today on this one!!!

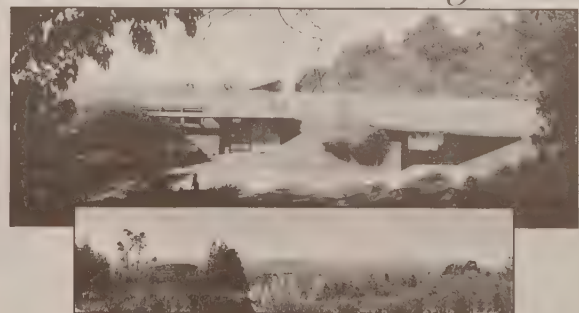


HERCULES \$449,000

3BD/2BA Chamber w/ Amenities Galore!
Master Bedroom Suite, Walk to wall carpeting,
Fireplace in Living Room, 2 Car Garage, etc.
Level and nicely landscaped front &
rear yards. Peach, Apple & Asian Pear trees!
Very quiet and private backyard.

ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES AVAILABLE - CALL TODAY!!!

1. Norwood Place, Kensington



Open Thursday December 11th 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Do not miss this opportunity of a lifetime. Marin, Golden Gate, North, South fantastic vistas everywhere! Located on a private, gated road, this approximately 3/4 acre spread boasts a stunning 1950's contemporary home influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright design. There are fantastic vistas of the entire Bay from almost every room in this unique abode. Included are two 6,000 square foot building lots and maybe more depending on your needs.

Private showings only with Lillie Braudy.

View this property at <http://purealty.com/webtours/showtour.asp?T=165554>

Offered at \$1,900,000



LILLIE BRAUDY

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"Your profits will bloom with Lillie"

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Prudential
California Realty

5808 Lawton Avenue

Rockridge

New Listing

Open Sunday 2-4:30

Offered at \$819,000



5901 Ascot Drive

Piedmont Pines

Available by Appointment

Offered at \$739,000



Debbi DiMaggio
Making Transitions Easier

OFFICE: 339.0400/227

GRUBBCO.COM

Visit GRUBBCO.COM for
Photo Tours

of this and other current listings.

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

729 Baywood Rd - \$617,000
 339 Broadway #105 - \$320,000
 2008 Buena Vista Av - \$480,000
 2068 Central Av - \$670,000
 315 Central Av - \$479,500
 307 Cypress St - \$370,000
 15 Dresden Bay - \$779,000
 46 Garden Rd - \$485,000
 1017 Grace Ct - \$490,000
 20 Hampton Ct - \$618,000
 1109 Ironwood Rd - \$580,500
 76 Maitland Dr - \$490,000
 2447 Otis Dr - \$506,000
 2219 San Antonio - \$613,000
 847 Santa Clara - \$585,000
 1610 Stanton St - \$500,000
 166 Sweet Rd - \$854,000
 2 Vista Rd - \$582,000
 2951 Windsor Dr - \$527,500

ALBANY

1107 Ordway St - \$690,000
 736 Spokane Av - \$429,000

BERKELEY

3025 Acton St - \$500,000
 1636 Berkeley Wy - \$610,000
 1909 Berryman St - \$650,000
 1624 Beverly Pl - \$800,000
 84 Bonnie Ln - \$875,000

Find Out What Your
Home is Worth On-Line
visit:

www.OaklandHomeValue.com

Agent, Re/Max

1638 Fairview St - \$580,000
 1129 Hearst Av #C - \$462,500
 2317 Howe St - \$580,000
 2512 Mathews St - \$495,000
 2764 Mathews St - \$360,000
 2632 Warring 10 - \$355,000
 3009 Wheeler St - \$475,000

EL CERRITO

2301 Alva Av - \$395,000

819 Everett St - \$475,000
 5703 Jordan Av - \$440,000
 3337 Santa Clara - \$336,000
 5403 Silva Av - \$400,000
 27 Wildwood Pl - \$370,000

EL SOBRANTE

5584 Amend Rd - \$475,500
 4058 Lambert Rd - \$329,000
 5866 Olinda Rd - \$420,500

OAKLAND

1339 103rd Av - \$316,000
 2744 106th Av - \$280,000
 1427 17th St - \$303,000
 2043 18th Av - \$330,000
 2049 18th Av - \$320,000
 2644 23rd St - \$270,000
 1041 24th St - \$250,000
 435 38th St - \$415,000
 1729 4th Av - \$720,000

1064 53rd St - \$380,000
 2900 57th St - \$460,000
 477 59th St - \$440,000
 1045 61st St - \$380,000
 3051 75th Av - \$250,000
 1150 84th Av - \$304,000
 1615 86th Av - \$312,000
 939 88th Av - \$260,000

See SALES Page



RED OAK REALTY

www.redoakrealty.com

JUST LISTED!

211 Arlington Avenue
Kensington

Offered at \$765,000

Open Sunday
December 7th, 2003
1:00 - 4:00 PM

Charming Tudor with fabulous garden retreat. Beautiful living room with fireplace. Private patio and garden. 2-car garage and much, much more!



KATHY NITSAN

510.280.2125

1891 Solano Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707

BERKELEY HILLS REALTY

510.524.9100

View Photo Tours on the Web

1515 Oxford, Unit 3B, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New Listing! Spacious, stylish 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo with 2-bridge, Bay view. Living room and bedrooms open to large balcony. Well-maintained building. Very special!

Jean Auka 524-9888 x16 \$559,000

2400 Tulare at Jordan, El Cerrito
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New Listing! Spacious, sunny home on a quiet street. Bay views, large living room with Bay window and a fireplace. Dining area. Kitchen with large pantry and great family room. Large master bedroom and bath. 2 other bedrooms and bath. Great indoor/outdoor; private deck and garden, indoor entrance to double garage and basement.

Maya Trilling 524-9888 x18 \$515,000

336 & 336A Panoramic Way, Berkeley
By Appointment Only

Get away to your country retreat every day! Fabulous, large home on Panoramic hill with stellar SF views; elegant spaces for entertaining, wonderful indoor/outdoor, and perfect for working at home. 5 bdrms, 3.5 baths, and a sunny 2-bdrm, 2-bath second unit; all in move-in condition.

Maya Trilling 524-9888 x18 \$1,750,000

"Since selling a house is not something I do every year, I was relieved to put my trust in such hands. I know you work extremely hard for all your clients, and I feel privileged to be one of them."
—Y. H., El Cerrito

Specialists in Fine East Bay Properties

ALBANY • BERKELEY • EL CERRITO • KENSINGTON • OAKLAND • PIEDMONT

New Listing



Open Sunday 12th
2:00 - 4:30

Montclair District
7086 Sayre Drive, Oakland

Contemporary house in the woods. 3+BR/2BA. Updated kitchen with granite counters, living room with vaulted ceiling. Private deck with hot tub, great floor plan!

Offered at \$569,000



Liat Bostick, Realtor
(510) 339-4734

COLDWELL BANKER
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Open Sunday



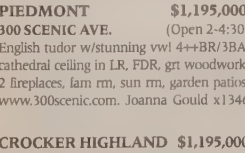
NORTH BERKELEY \$1,650,000

1705 LA LOMA AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
The William Rees House. Maybeck & White, 1906. Christopherson & Graph, 1990. BAH Restoration Award, 1991. 2nd unit. SeeMore @pacunion.com. Gini Erck x1339



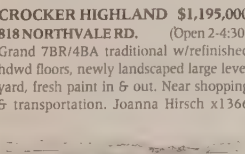
PIEDMONT \$1,599,000

8 GLEN ALPINE RD. (Open 2-4:30)
Handsomely remodeled contemporary in impeccable Piedmont neighborhood. 5BR/4.5 BA, family room, level out to sunny patios & garden. Debi Fitzgerald x1306



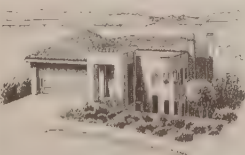
PIEDMONT \$1,195,000

300 SCENIC AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
English tudor w/stunning wvl 4+BR/3BA, cathedral ceiling in LR, FDR, grt woodwork, 2 fireplaces, lam rm, sun rm, garden patios. www.300scenic.com. Joanna Gould x1346



CROCKER HIGHLAND \$1,195,000

818 NORTHVALE RD. (Open 2-4:30)
Grand 7BR/4BA traditional w/refinished hwd floors, newly landscaped large level yard, fresh paint in & out. Near shopping & transportation. Joanna Hirsch x1366



OAKLAND HILLS \$1,025,000

601 VIA RIALTO RD. (Sat/Sun 1-5)
New home w/incredible bay vws. 4BR/3BA, pleasant backyard, high dramatic ceilings, Gourmet kit w/hwd cabinetry, fireplaces, designer baths. Keith Tollas x1382

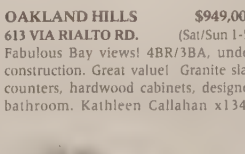
PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate
www.pacunion.com

Open Sunday



PIEDMONT \$995,000

24 BLAIR AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Country English home, 4+BR/3BA. Rich w/architectural details including window seats, hwd flrs, french doors, buffet and display cabinets. Ashley O'Neill x1368



OAKLAND HILLS \$949,000

613 VIA RIALTO RD. (Sat/Sun 1-5)
Fabulous Bay views! 4BR/3BA, under construction. Great value! Granite slab counters, hardwood cabinets, designer bathroom. Kathleen Callahan x1343



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$750,000

7045 CHABOT RD. (Open 2-5)
New listing! 3BR/2.5BA Contemporary. Spacious master suite, steel beamed ceilings, eat-in kit w/gypsum counters. 2 car garage. Carla Bullington x1367

SAN FRANCISCO \$699,000

2 FALLON PL. #57 (Open 2-4:30)
Russian Hill, 2BR/1BA. Great views of Nob Hill, downtown, Bay Bridge. Lg deck, tennis, storage, 2 gar pkg+. Ashley O'Neill x1368

Open Sunday



CROCKER HIGHLAND \$679,000

961 PARK LANE (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! 4BR/3BA fixer. Soaring wood ceilings, large FDR, hardwood flrs and a peak of the bay. Built in 1938. Kathy Flynn x1317



PIEDMONT AVENUE \$529,000

4277 GILBERT ST. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Charming bungalow. Updated kit, FR & BA. 2BR, leaded glass windows, hwd flrs, box beamed ceilings, lvl backyard w/separate study. Ashley O'Neill x1368



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$519,000

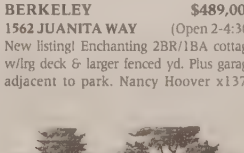
3130 GUIDO ST. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Charming, spacious traditional. Woodsy area. Sunny, upgraded kit, laundry room w/pantry. Deep rear yard w/deck & mature landscaping. Diane McCan x1352

Open Sunday



GRAND LAKE \$499,000

488 CRESCENT ST. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Storybook Charming. 3BR/1+BA. Rich architectural details, original built-ins & woodwork. Lrg level yard, near shops, transportation. Jeffrey Himmel x1307



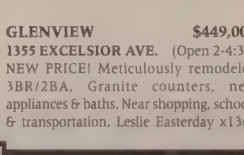
BERKELEY \$489,000

1562 JUANITA WAY (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Enchanting 2BR/1BA cottage w/lrg deck & larger fenced yd. Plus garage adjacent to park. Nancy Hoover x1375



OAKLAND \$450,000

4651 FAIR AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Warm & delightful 2BR/1BA w/bay views from the back. DR, laundry, + jazzy outdoor kit & patio, deck. Sandi Klemmer x1314 & Dick Cohen x1308



GLENVIEW \$449,000

1355 EXCELSIOR AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
NEW PRICE! Meticulously remodeled 3BR/2BA. Granite counters, new appliances & baths. Near shopping, schools & transportation. Leslie Easterday x1363

Open Sunday



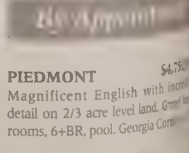
REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$949,000

4356 BERMUDA AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! All level ranch style home. Lovely quiet area w/hill views. Needs dating & paint. Detached garage. Near transportation. Wendy Gardner x1307



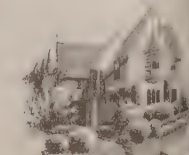
GLENVIEW (LOWER) \$189,000

2901 MCKILLOP RD. (Open 2-4:30)
Magical Mediterranean 2BR/1BA superb architectural details. Spacious living room, remodeled kitchen & dining room. Vicki Woodhead x1307



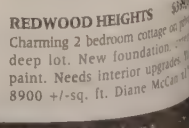
PIEDMONT \$475,000

Magnificent English with incredible detail on 2/3 acre level land. Great rooms, 6+BR, pool. Georgia Corbett x1307



PIEDMONT \$375,000

Stately English Tudor with 4+BR, incredible architectural details. Great room & guest suite. Georgia Corbett x1307



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$949,000

Charming 2 bedroom cottage on deep lot. New foundation, new paint. Needs interior upgrades. 8900 +/- sq. ft. Diane McCan x1352

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SANTA CLAUS, MRS. CLAUS AND THE GOOD FOLKS at the annual Santa Claus Day event. The group of Real Estate Brokers gather barrels of toys for pick-up at the Alameda County Firefighters. IREB hopes to exceed the 2002 record of 20 barrels collected last year and donated to Toys for Tots.

Santa helps 'Toys for Tots'

It's tradition. Every year Santa and Mrs. Claus visit the Independent Real Estate Brokers at the Corporate Headquarters. The goodies for the children are picture with Santa, in a photo booth. Enter a drawing to win a prize.

Annual Santa Claus Day is from 1 to 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 6. This year's event is held at IREB, 1500 E. Lewelling Boulevard in Hayward. A donation of a new, unwrapped toy would be appreciated.

Holidays are about giving. IREB always includes in its festivities, giving back to the community. In this case, the "Toys for Tots" drive is in conjunction with the Alameda County Fire Department, which collects toys for the "Toys for Tots" drive every December. The day of Santa's visit the department bagged red truck toys to the corporate headquarters to be donated to the "Toys for Tots" drive. IREB staff has already collected toys in anticipation of the December Toy Drive. The staff has lots of toys for the "Toys for Tots" drive. IREB staff has already collected toys in anticipation of the December Toy Drive. The staff has lots of toys for the "Toys for Tots" drive.

Annual Santa Claus Day is from 1 to 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, Saturday, Dec. 6. This event is held at IREB, 1500 E. Lewelling Boulevard in Hayward. A donation of a new, unwrapped toy would be appreciated.

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ALAMONDRO AREA
PENDING Home w/Many
2000 sq ft \$675,000
SOLD Home w/Many
2000 sq ft \$305,000
SOLD Home w/Many
2000 sq ft \$305,000
SOLD Home w/Many
2000 sq ft \$295,000
SOLD Home w/Many
2000 sq ft \$299,500
VALLEY
VIEW DR.
VALLEY AREA
SOLD Home w/Many
2000 sq ft \$435,000
PENDING PARK
VIEW DR.
PARK AREA
\$399,000

Sales

FROM PAGE B6

2444 89th Av - \$290,000
2935 Abbey St - \$195,000
3124 Adeline St - \$250,000
1076 Alleen St - \$395,000
5949 Alhambra Av - \$650,000
1024 Ardmore Av - \$912,000
673 Arimo Av - \$702,500
724 Arimo Av - \$630,000
9900 B St - \$236,000
5457 Broadway - \$625,000
3456 Calandria Av - \$580,000

5433 Camden St - \$400,000
2622 C. Lenada - \$620,000
6679 Charing Cross - \$659,000
1912 Cortereal Av - \$701,500
9515 D St - \$260,000
369 Darien Av - \$278,000
5212 Desmond St - \$590,000
2131 Durant Av - \$460,000
2830 East 16th St - \$390,000
3410 East 17th St - \$302,000
2618 East 22nd St - \$365,000
1333 East 34th St - \$325,000
720 E. Canyon Oaks - \$291,000
27 Echo Av - \$443,000
3210 Ettie St - \$415,000
1100 Everett Av - \$537,500

4612 Fairfax Av - \$310,000
6033 Fairlane Dr - \$1,100,000
2723 Frazier Av - \$270,000
1875 Grand View Dr - \$750,000
111 Gravatt Dr - \$1,290,000
7206 Halliday Av - \$280,000
6553 Heather Ridge - \$760,000
3366 Herrier St - \$683,000
3825 High St #202 - \$299,000
7700 Holly St - \$310,000
3049 Hyde St - \$410,000
2031 Independence - \$170,000
385 Jayne Av #107 - \$222,000
5673 Keith Av - \$825,000

See SALES, Page B8

HOUSE HUNTING THIS WEEKEND? START WITH THE OPEN HOME GUIDE ON B16.

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marvin gardens real estate

El Cerrito, 3440 Yosemite \$825,000
Two story four-plex. Excellent condition, four blocks to Plaza BART. 2 bedroom, 1 bath identical units. 4 carports, laundry room.
Open Sunday 2-4
Joan Underwood 559-2911

Albany, 1052 Ordway St. \$529,000
Wonderful 2-bedroom charmer in fabulous location! Gleaming hardwood floors, fresh paint inside & out, dining area with built-ins, fireplace, big kitchen w/ tiled counters and floors, lush landscaped yard. Close to Monterey Market.
Open Sunday 2-4
Dee Plunkett 559-2933

El Cerrito, 1936 Downey Place \$479,000
Home for the Holidays! Well maintained mid-century home. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, all on one level. Hardwood floors. View from 1 bedroom. Convenient to BART. Walk to Canyon Trail Park.
Open Sunday 2-4
Diana Mendler 559-2937

Berkeley, 2366 Cedar St. \$249,000
Wonderful Opportunity! 1 bedroom condo just a short walk to campus, shopping, and coffee! Beautiful light-filled sunroom/bedroom with bay windows and charming window seat! Move-in condition with gleaming hardwood floors & fresh paint. Off-street parking.
Open Sunday 2-5
Richard Morrison 527-2700 x32

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Which is worth more . . . The value in your house OR the amount you have in your stock portfolio or 401k?
Answer: Most families have made more money in real estate than all of their other investments & retirement plans - combined.

One client recently concluded that he'd need to save over \$25,000 per year to be able to retire in 20-years. He has done much better than that with his real estate investments - and most of his gains were TAX-FREE. We'll show you how you can do this, and much more.

What You'll Learn At The Seminar
Whether you currently own one house - or ten, you will learn NEW techniques that will take you to the next-level in building your real estate portfolio in the fastest & safest ways possible.

I'll share stories from many of my clients on how to acquire the most real estate with your current assets, job & income, how the recent tax laws give you tax-free or tax-deferred transactions, the best types of properties to acquire, how to use your 401k to acquire real estate, how to arrange equity-share agreements and so much more.

This is a free seminar and there is absolutely nothing to buy. Please join us this Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

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TUESDAY
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FREE Admission
No RSVP required

Sales

FROM PAGE B7

19 Kingwood Rd - \$721,500
634 Mandana Bl - \$665,000
1452 Mitchell St - \$270,000
323 Monte Vista 201 - \$280,000
929 Moorpark St - \$280,000
311 Oak St #338 - \$382,000
311 Oak St #724 - \$390,000
651 Oakland 4A - \$440,000
6080 Ocean View Dr - \$730,000
4103 Patterson Av - \$440,000
8040 Phaeton Dr - \$640,000
6032 Ridgemont Dr - \$846,000
918 Royal St - \$305,000

4334 Shafter Av - \$485,000
10401 Shaw 403 - \$275,000
7227 Skyline Bl - \$745,000
8309 Skyline Bl - \$625,000
10972 Star Ct - \$473,000
2541 Stockbridge - \$794,000
3230 Suter St - \$311,000
4011 Suter St - \$325,000
2719 Talbot Av - \$316,000
6076 Thornhill Dr - \$626,000
1942 Tiffin Rd - \$550,000
4326 Tompkins Av - \$455,000
500 Vernon 101 - \$385,000
670 Vernon 405 - \$351,000
3726 Virden Av - \$555,000
4800 Webster St - \$698,000
6633 Woodland Pl - \$230,000

PIEDMONT

38 Cambridge - \$961,000
280 Scenic Av - \$1,100,000

RICHMOND

451 6th St - \$220,000
546 9th St - \$270,000
2608 Bayfront Ct - \$390,000
704 Bradford Dr - \$252,500
2393 Brooks Av - \$310,000
874 Carlson Bl - \$318,000
5176 Carriage Dr - \$525,000
5445 Carriage Dr - \$492,000
2111 Garvin Av - \$285,000
2189 Greenridge - \$430,000
2886 Lowell Av - \$330,000
812 Lucas Av - \$259,000

2718 McBryde Av - \$322,500
39 Nicholl Av - \$470,000
16 Sanford Av - \$279,000
141 South 11th St - \$258,000
340 South 12th St - \$220,000
235 South 19th St - \$261,000
102 South 42nd St - \$230,000
516 Tewksbury Av - \$304,000
624 Yuba St - \$410,000

See SALES, Page B11

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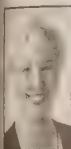
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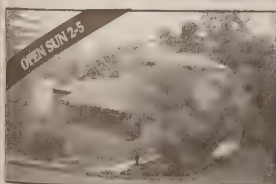
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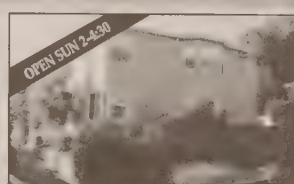
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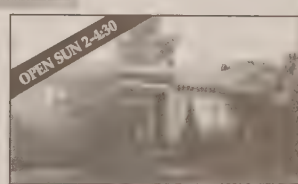
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1 bath units. Everything redone in '93 with permits -
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with patio.
DEBORAH RINEY



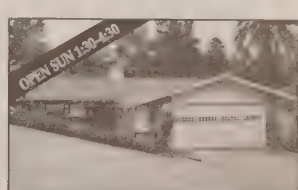
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PIEDMONT PINES \$649,000
New Listing. Home sweet home. Level patio in, level out
deck and private garden. Three bedrooms, two baths, home
office. Hardwood flooring. Master suite with partial bay
view. Large family room and dark room. Huge storage areas.
Attached double garage.
HAL CASTLE

Open Sunday 2-4:30
ALBANY \$619,500
Three car garage, 3 bedrooms, 1.25 bath home with
open, sunlit floors. Formal dining room. Fireplace. Vaulted
ceiling in living room. Large yard.
KEITH TOWER

LAKE MERRITT \$675,000
A 2nd floor unit, can be yours in this spacious two-
bedroom, two-and-a-half bath condo located high up in
an Oakland's Art Deco landmark building. Sweeping
views from every room. 24 hour doorman/valet service
included.
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four offices or to any Heritage Real Estate
open house this month! All toys donated to
underserved & needy children from
Bay Area Crisis Nursery



Your community has been our world since 1909. Warm holiday wishes from our family to yours.

LAKE MERRITT \$295,000
Why rent when you can own in this famous location.
Landmark building. Three bedrooms, one and a half bath on
the 3rd floor has over 1150 square feet with wood burning
fireplace, a formal dining room, an efficiency kitchen and
abundant storage. 24-hour doorman/valet service included.
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LAKE MERRITT \$365,000
A picture postcard view of Lake Merritt and the East Bay
Hills! This 1600+ square foot two bedroom, two bath co-op
in Oakland's famous "White Glove" building. Included are
oak parquet floors, European chandeliers, and an updated
all-electric kitchen. Doorman services included. Call for
appointment.
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House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section first

LAUREL DISTRICT

OPEN SUNDAY
December 7th



OPEN HOURS
1:00-4:30 PM



4088 Patterson Ave. Charming Traditional with VIEWS!!

START THE HOLIDAYS HERE!! Lovely traditional living and dining room with fireplace and plank floors. Two elevated bedrooms are sunny and bright. Country kitchen with eating area/family room opens out to a wonderful level back yard with fabulous views!! And there's a plus room downstairs with attached garage. This is a very special place to call HOME!

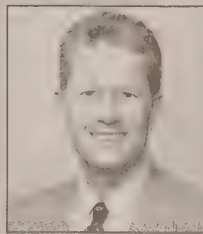
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September



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October



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Kane & Associates
Realtors

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Offered at \$445,000

Luxuriously
upgraded...

Park Woods Condo,
Piedmont model.

2 bedroom, 2 bath
w/ loft, pool view,
vaulted ceilings,
slate floor,
enhanced lighted
custom closets.
Great freeway
access. 2 covered
parking spaces.
A must see!

Visit our website: www.alamedaproperties.com

A sampling of our current listings:



El Sobrante
Beautiful, well maintained 3br/2ba home
in a great location. Bonus family room;
huge back yard with big deck & views.
2 car s/s garage. New paint inside & out.
Move-in condition.

\$424,500



Diamond District - Oakland
Handsome 3-unit building on large lot
with plenty of off street parking.
Two-bedroom unit on top floor
and one-bedroom unit on lower floor
will be vacant at close of escrow.
Hardwood floors; two fireplaces.

\$589,000



Russian Hill
Great pied-a-terre.
Remodeled studio with walk-out balcony
and panoramic Bay views.
1 car parking, 24-hour door person, on-site
manager. Ideal location near Ghirardelli Sq.,
the Cannery, Fisherman's wharf, restaurants
shops and transportation.

\$249,900



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SAN LORENZO

16360 Elgin Ct - \$360,000
949 Heather Ln - \$470,000
16027 Via Catherine - \$385,000
17350 Via Del Rey - \$375,000
1657 Via Hermana - \$435,000

1157 Via Los Trancos - \$380,000
17449 Via Susana - \$378,000

By the number

ALAMITOS

TOTAL SALES: 19

LOWEST PRICE: \$320,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$854,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$527,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$555,079

See SALES, Page B14

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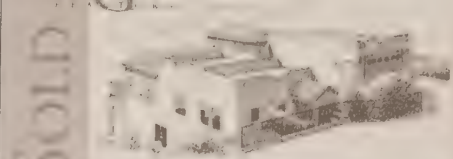
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COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Comments
Alameda Bancorp	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.930...0.45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.020...0.45	15-yr Fixed 5.250...0.000 5.330...0.45	5/1 ARM 4.875...0.000 4.930...0.45	Loan for all credit grades! No Income Check Loans. No Upfront Fees Purh/Ref to 100% Saratoga Bancorp.com
Alameda Mgt. Consult.	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.918...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.022...0.30	1 Month MTA 1.250...0.000 3.669...0.30	Jumbo 6 mo IO* 2.875...0.000 2.918...0.30	Expert Real Estate Advice! Local SF Bay Area Broker. *5 yr int only period. Libor indexed
Alameda Resid. Lend.	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.843...0.45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.041...0.45	15-yr Fixed 5.125...0.000 5.279...0.45	1-yr ARM* 1.250...0.000 1.310...0.45	Refi, purchase or consolidate now! Free Approval! No Doc Loans "pot neg am M-F 7:00-9:00 Sat-Sun 7:00-5:00
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.730...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.150...0.30	15-yr Fixed 5.000...0.000 5.190...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875...0.000 5.050...0.30	Open weekends. Credit problems OK *Apply online! www.supenor-mtg.net
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.750 5.784...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.750 5.984...0.30	15-yr Fixed 5.000...1.000 5.302...0.30	3/1 ARM 3.750...1.000 3.640...0.30	OPEN WEEKENDS CREDIT PROBLEMS O.K. WWW.AAALENDER.COM
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.812...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.150...0.30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.125...0.000 3.887...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625...0.000 3.988...0.30	7/1 Jumbo ARM 5.500% apr 4.427% 1 month ARM 1% start rate, apr 3.194% Prepay & other restrictions may apply
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.980...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 5.917...0.30	15-yr Fixed 5.125...0.000 5.297...0.30	7/1 ARM Jumbo 5.375...0.250 4.717...0.30	Apply and lock online 24/7. Open Sat. and Sun. from 9am til 2pm. Rates and Fees Posted Online Daily
Alameda Mortgage Corp.	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.966...0.45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.116...0.45	3/1 ARM 3.625...0.000 4.069...0.45	15-yr Fixed 5.125...0.000 5.498...0.45	*Visit www.amensave.com to search rates Best rates & lowest fees guaranteed or we pay you \$300
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.875...1.000 5.643...0.60	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...1.000 5.738...0.60	15-yr Fixed 4.875...1.000 4.995...0.60	6 Mo Interest Only 2.625...1.000 2.731...0.60	*100% Financing Available - Fast Closings No Cost for Appraisal - Refinance Today! Low/Moderate Income Programs Available
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.833 6.026...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.833 6.126...0.30	6 month ARM 2.750...1.380 2.920...0.30	3/1 ARM 4.000...0.994 4.049...0.30	*Purchase only. Call for refinance Rates Let us help you obtain your down payment
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.625...1.250 5.831...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...1.250 6.017...0.30	5/1 ARM Jmb IO 4.625...0.000 4.672...0.30	3/1 ARM Jumbo IO 4.825...0.000 4.872...0.30	*100% Home Financing Programs up to 1 MIL Interest Only to 2 MIL. 6 MCS. 3/1, 5/1 180 Days Lock. NEW Construction Home PUR
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.842...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.040...0.30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250...0.000 4.286...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...0.000 4.787...0.30	DIRECT LENDER LOANS TO 10 MILLION WWW.CALMTG.COM
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 6.000...0.000 6.040...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250...0.000 6.290...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.375...0.000 5.410...0.30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...0.000 4.790...0.30	Cal-State Funding CAN fund your loan. Rates change daily, call for latest rate We are here to satisfy your needs.
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.625...1.000 5.781...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...1.000 6.008...0.30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 3.500...1.000 3.605...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.375...1.250 4.507...0.30	Open Sat & Sun. Quik Qualifier & stated income option available. Financing for people with less than perfect credit.
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.500...0.875 5.640...0.35	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.750 5.984...0.35	15-yr Fixed 4.875...0.500 5.071...0.35	CODI 30 yr ARM 1.194...0.000 4.880...0.60	Purchase, Refinance or Cashout. CODI COFI, COSI, Open 7 Days. *Potential Neg-Am.
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.375...2.000 5.677...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625...2.000 5.876...0.30	15-yr Fixed 4.750...2.000 5.253...0.30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.125...2.000 5.525...0.30	Apply online at www.ditech.com -Your mortgage solution. Delivered!
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.750...1.625 5.929...0.60	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...1.625 6.562...0.60	1-mo COFI ARM* 1.250...1.000 4.591...0.45		Direct lender. 45 yrs experience; fixed & adjust rate mtgs; *Pot. neg. amort. Apply online at www.downeyssavings.com
Alameda Mortgage, Inc.	30-yr Fixed 5.375...1.750 5.400...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...2.000 5.620...0.30	15-yr Fixed 4.500...2.000 4.720...0.30	1-yr ARM* 1.250...0.000 3.340...0.60	Low rates with NO POINTS ALSO NO CLOSING COSTS AVAILABLE *Pot neg am Pics. online @ www.lendia.com
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.960...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...0.125 6.170...0.30	10/1 ARM Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.780...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.000...0.000 5.030...0.30	3/1 4.25 0 pts 4.28 APR 30 day marylightell.com Call 7days wk mlightell@tstblackhawk.com
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.500...2.000 5.755...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...1.000 6.000...0.30	15-yr Fixed 4.750...2.000 4.993...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.500...1.000 4.615...0.30	OPEN WKENDS. FAST & EZ APRVAL. CASH OUT 100% PURCHASE PROGRMS NO APPLICATION FEE 877-414-8280 or WWW.CALFIRSTLENDING.COM
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.500...1.000 5.619...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625...1.000 5.820...0.30	15-yr Fixed 4.750...1.000 4.940...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250...1.000 4.440...0.30	DON'T BE "LURED IN" BY LOW QUOTES! CALL ME FOR A HONEST LOCKABLE RATE! CLOSE IN 30 DAYS OR APPRAISAL IS FREE!!!!!!
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.250...1.750 5.477...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...1.990 5.660...0.30	15-yr Fixed 4.625...1.750 5.079...0.30	30-yr Fixed 0 Pts 5.750...0.000 5.864...0.30	Good & Bad Credit Considered. Brokers welcome! Great Commercial Loans. visit us at www.mtrixinvestmentscorp.com
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.750 5.931...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.500 6.085...0.30	3/1 ARM 3.875...0.875 4.430...0.30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.125...0.250 3.913...0.30	NO Income/NO Assets/NO Job? - YES NO Money Down/NO Closing Costs? - YES All types of Credit? - YES
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.500...2.000 5.850...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.800...2.000 5.900...0.30	15-yr Fixed 4.750...2.000 5.140...0.30	10-yr Int Only ARM 3.375...0.000 3.391...0.30	5/1 4.250 2pts 4.570 APR WOW! INT ONLY NO COST LOANS E Bay Offers 800-640-5588 Purchase and Refinance Specialist
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.967...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250...0.000 6.344...0.30	15-yr Fixed 5.250...0.000 5.402...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.250...0.000 5.372...0.30	Credit problems, bankruptcy, difficult loans our specialty. all gov't loans, 100% loans, credit lines, construction.
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.762...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.087...0.30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250...0.000 4.310...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...0.000 4.812...0.30	Fast approval on Purchase loan Easy qualify. Call for FREE pre-approval Apply now: www.uslending.com
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.843...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.040...0.30	6 month ARM 3.875...0.000 3.958...0.25	30-yr ARM* 1.950...0.000 4.782...0.000	WOW!! NO ADD-ON FOR Jumbo Loans! No-Point loans are available!! (3yr ppmt) E-mail Steve@northernmutual.com
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.875...1.500 6.105...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...1.500 6.305...0.30	15-yr Fixed 5.375...1.500 5.758...0.30	5/1 ARM 4.875...1.500 5.092...0.30	www.24hourloancenter.com Check out our web site for more rates! We are committed to EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE!
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.982...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.046...0.30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875...0.000 4.818...0.30	3/1 ARM 4.000...0.000 4.095...0.30	Se Habla Espanol. 100% purchase/Credit problems OK Interest Only Loans/BK OK
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.811...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.029...0.30	3/1 ARM 3.500...0.000 3.822...0.30	5/1 ARM 4.000...0.000 3.958...0.30	Get rates online at www.pmgmortgage.com Purchase specialist-we get loans closed! Great jumbo & Interest Only programs.
Alameda Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.843...0.30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.040...0.30	3/1 ARM 3.875...0.000 3.958...0.25	30-yr ARM* 1.950...0.000 4.782...0.000	OPEN WEEKENDS / 0 POINTS - 0 COSTS avail INTEREST ONLY / 0 DOWN PMT/full index 4.69 APPLY ONLINE AT www.loanpaperwork.com

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- Prequalify, preapprove or apply online

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For a single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$322,700) based on \$350,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate but cannot be guaranteed to change without notice. Minimum downpayment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Contact each company for details. APR is annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company - includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance if required. ARM=adjustable rate mortgage. Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. *Ave 30 yr. fixed conforming with 0 points Fees are estimated costs based on a money loan and may vary from loan to loan. These are not inclusive of all costs and do not include points, prepaid interest, title insurance or escrow items. Click on "Mortgage Rates" section of website * contact each company for details. Copyright 2003, INFOTRAK National Data Services and Knight Publishing Co.

If you would like to be included in this Mortgage Guide, please call 781-276-1711

VACANT AND READY TO MOVE IN TO

2 BR 2 BA condo in Bay Front in Marina Bay. Built in 1998, this charming unit is a delight. #30001489
Carylon Dopp 510-662-8498

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Santa Claus Comes to Montclair

*Save the Date!
Saturday December 13*

*Santa arrives at
The GRUBB Co.*

*1960 Mountain Boulevard at 11:00
Santa will be posing for photos and
listening to Christmas wishes until 1pm.*

*Santa is bringing along one of his elves to make balloon animals.
Cookies and Juice will be provided for all.*

Bring along a toy for our Toys for Tots barrel!



*Each child will receive
a photo with Santa
courtesy of*

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS

*Happy Holidays
2003*

BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



1508 GRAND VIEW DRIVE \$2,300,000
Absolutely breathtaking style & views! 3-car garage w/ level entry to kitchen/family room. 5+BR/4.5BA. Elegantly customized throughout. Designed by Jarvis Architects & built by Reuvekamp Builders. Erika Celestre



160 GRAVATT DRIVE \$1,395,000
A fabulous home designed & built by Paul Vincent. Stunning views. 4BR/3.5BA, kitchen/family room opens level out to private front patio. 2-car attached garage. Quality finishes throughout. Karen Starr



305 THE UPLANDS \$1,250,000
The ballroom of the legendary Taylor estate! Huge flowing spaces adopted from an original 40 room mansion. 4BR/3BA. Huge living room/ballroom. Cavernous former stable below. Paul Templeton & Faye Keogh

OAKLAND & PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



5616 LA SALLE AVENUE \$2,988,000
This recently completed custom contemporary features a lush garden courtyard, floor to ceiling windows, large indoor atrium & high quality finishes. 3++BR/2.5BA. Loft & library. Master bath w/sauna. Ford/Plowright

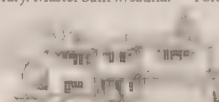


195 ROBLE ROAD \$1,125,000
This recently completed custom contemporary features a lush garden courtyard, floor to ceiling windows, large indoor atrium & high quality finishes. 3++BR/2.5BA. Loft & library. Master bath w/sauna. Ford/Plowright

5303 LAWTON AVENUE \$819,000
Fabulous Craftsman located in the heart of Rockridge. Fine details & beautiful hardwood floors. Four bedrooms, two baths & a lovely level garden. Close to BART, shops and dining. Debbi DiMaggio



5 DIABLO DRIVE \$1,765,000
Brand new handcrafted retreat with a Zen-like calm & tranquility. Top of the world views of the Bay & bridges. 5BR/5+BA, sauna, wine cellar & three fireplaces. Debra J. Dryden

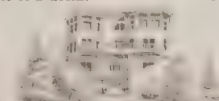


1293 SUNNYHILLS ROAD \$1,089,000
A gorgeous traditional located on a beautiful tree-lined street & includes 4BR/2.5 remodeled BA, gourmet kitchen w/granite counters, family room + office. Hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces & 2 decks. Sandra Vogl

6865 OAKWOOD DRIVE \$799,000
Feel a million miles away from the city enjoy serene canyon views from every level of this spacious 4BR/3.5BA contemporary home w/updated kitchen adjacent to family room. Huge rumpus room. Mavis Delacroix



55 DIABLO DRIVE \$1,650,000
Diablo Heights. Magnificent new Mediterranean w/ unsurpassed views. Timeless design & features including 2 grand fireplaces, gourmet kitchen and expansive deck. Lavish master suite. Sheila Gallagher



35 BAY FOREST COURT \$929,000
Enjoy the dramatic SF skyline, city lights & sunsets over the Bay. Chef's kitchen w/upscale appliances. Family room w/kitchenette & spa. Master suite w/fireplace. 3++BR/3.5BA. Chris Cohn

4933 STONERIDGE CT. \$679,000
Exquisite Ridgemont home with fabulous landscaped level garden, spacious master suite, family room, formal dining room and 3BR/2.5BA. Three-car garage, cul-de-sac location. Sherry Benninger



6151 ACACIA AVENUE \$1,549,000
Enjoy holiday entertaining in this elegant home. Rich w/ architectural detail & craftsmanship, this superbly designed home is gracious in every detail. 4+BR/4+BA, family room, lovely views and gardens. Elizabeth Dickson



1039 CLARENDON CRES. \$895,000
Stunning Crocker Highlands French country charm. 3+BR/2+BA. Hardwood floors, beamed ceilings, lovely garden spaces and an au-pair unit with separate entrance. Steve Michaelides

1636 TRESTLE GLEN RD. \$599,000
A charming English Tudor in Crocker Highlands. Living room with vaulted ceiling & formal dining room. 2+BR/1BA, breakfast room & attached garage. Expansion potential. Anne Feste

PIEDMONT By Appointment



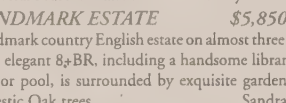
EXQUISITE ESTATE \$7,895,000
This magnificent Miller Warneke designed estate (circa 1925) on approximately 1.5 acres of lush grounds. Exquisite details! Dramatic staircase, library, handsome formal rooms & several bedroom suites. A Tunney & M. Scott



BEAU ARTS ESTATE \$5,600,000
San Francisco style & splendor in Piedmont! Enjoy the move-in condition of this home & the elegance of another era. Fabulous gourmet kitchen, remodeled master bedroom suite & stunning formal dining room. Anian Pettit Tunney



20 SIERRA AVENUE \$2,679,000
Elegant Tudor (circa 1924). Located in a coveted location. Expertly remodeled & maintained. Grand entry w/ gracious staircase. Sunroom, library, gourmet kitchen, detached recreation room & 4BR suites. Jean Simmons



LANDMARK ESTATE \$5,850,000
Landmark country English estate on almost three acres. This elegant 8+BR, including a handsome library and indoor pool, is surrounded by exquisite gardens and majestic Oak trees. Sandra Vogl

PRIME LOCATION \$2,465,000
A truly wonderful home. All level gardens of magnolias and oaks, accessible from the family room, kitchen & den. Large formal rooms, grand staircase, au-pair suite and rumpus room. 5BR/3.5BA. Jean Simmons

BERKELEY By Appointment



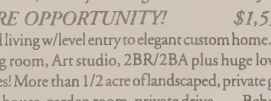
FRENCH COUNTRY ESTATE \$8,150,000
Gated & private, exclusive area near the Claremont Hotel. 1.25 acres, tennis court, swimming pool, gracious lawns & gardens, meandering paths. Views of San Francisco, the Bay & bridges. Debra J. Dryden



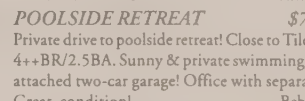
ELEGANCE WITH VIEWS \$875,000
Fabulous kitchen w/window seat & Bay views. Enjoy a dramatic timber truss ceiling in the living room. Special foundation. Garden w/dollhouse. Diane Verducci



CLAREMONT \$795,000
A grand old Swiss chalet style Craftsman in the coveted Claremont neighborhood. Almost original condition. Needs everything. Great opportunity to restore this wonderful home. 5BR/2+BA. Susanne Paul



RARE OPPORTUNITY! \$1,550,000
Level living w/level entry to elegant custom home. Paneled living room, Art studio, 2BR/2BA plus huge lower level spaces! More than 1/2 acre of landscaped, private grounds. Boat house, garden room, private drive. Bebe McRae



POOLSIDE RETREAT \$750,000
Private drive to poolside retreat! Close to Tilden Park! 4++BR/2.5BA. Sunny & private swimming pool and attached two-car garage! Office with separate entry. Great condition! Bebe McRae

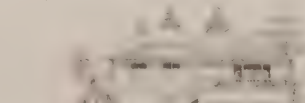
OAKLAND - By Appointment



A SPECTACULAR HOME \$2,495,000
Sensational one-of-a-kind home in popular Piedmont side of Montclair. Walls of glass, high ceilings & stunning living room. Sweeping SF views await you! Great attached 2nd unit apartment. Anian Pettit Tunney



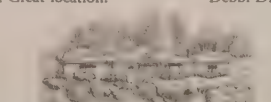
SOPHISTICATED! \$739,000
Dramatic 3BR/2BA Piedmont Pines contemporary w/SF Bay views. Living room opens out to a fabulous covered deck, perfect for entertaining. Dining area opens to private deck. Great location. Debbi DiMaggio



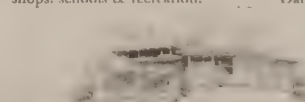
MONTCLAIR RETREAT \$569,000
Up a private driveway is this wonderful 3BR/2BA Montclair contemporary featuring spacious formal rooms, sunny eat-in kitchen, family room & deck. Minutes from shops, schools & recreation. Dana Cohen



CLASSIC MEDITERRANEAN \$1,695,000
High-quality throughout, 4+BR/3.5BA, pecan floors, grand living room, open kitchen/family room. Beautiful stone & ironwork master w/views. Kurt Buchholz



RESORT LIVING \$735,000
Expansive two-parcel site in serene setting. 3BR/2BA and fabulous entertaining from family room with access to gorgeous pool and patio. Helene Barkin



OAKLAND HILLS \$525,000
Enjoy the convenience of this one story mid-century modern style bungalow on a beautiful, extra large lot. 4BR/2BA. Dramatic guest room. Susanne Paul

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Sales

FROM PAGE B11

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$429,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$690,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$559,500

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 12
LOWEST PRICE: \$355,000

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$336,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$475,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$402,667

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$329,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$670,000

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$256,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$490,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$320,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$337,200

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 88
LOWEST PRICE: \$170,000

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$961,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,100,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,030,500

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 21
LOWEST PRICE: \$220,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$525,000

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 30
LOWEST PRICE: \$170,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$600,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$405,133

SANTO DOMINGO

TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST PRICE: \$360,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$470,000

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DAVID RATOOSH / KEITH CARROLL - BROKERS

New Listing in Piedmont Ave Neighborhood!
OPEN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2-4:30PM



4277 Gilbert Street

Charming bungalow with updated kitchen, family room and bath, 2 Bedrooms, leaded glass windows, hardwood floors, box beamed ceilings, level backyard with separate study.



Offered at \$529,000

Ashley Wilcox O'Neill
Senior Sales Associate
(510) 338-1368



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20 Sierra Avenue, Piedmont
A fabulous home rich in detail and architectural significance. This "well designed", exquisite residence features elegant, sun-filled formal rooms with private, very large garden vistas. Every bedroom is a spacious suite (master in master). The home is sited on gorgeous property, a wonderful, separate, private recreation room.

Offered at \$2,679,000

Please call for viewing appointment

JEAN SIMMONS

OFFICE: 339.0400/20

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Homes Open Sunday

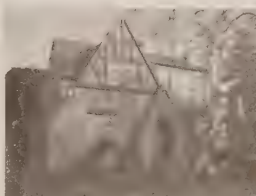
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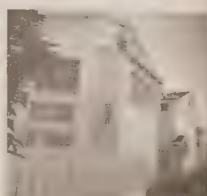
SAN PABLO \$310,000
2+1 - Sunny, spacious home on a large lot. Hardwood floors and fireplace. Close to shops and transportation. Minutes to El Cerrito Plaza.
1780 Merritt Avenue Open 1-4



ALBANY - NEW LISTING! \$400,000
2/1 - Spacious 1-plus bdrm. Large enclosed porch with closet - 2nd bdrm. Full basement, garage, yard. Hardwood floors. Wheelchair accessible. More at www.bobblumberg.com
1191 Santa Fe Avenue Open 2-4



KENSINGTON \$765,000
3/3 - Charming Tudor with garden cottage retreat, two-car garage, plentiful storage, beautiful living room with fireplace, spacious eat-in kitchen and much more!
211 Arlington Avenue Open 1-4:30



RICHMOND \$377,000
2+1/3 - Light and bright townhome near Bay. Private, landscaped yard and brick attached garage. A must see. More info and photos at www.kateanark.com
2609 Beach Head Court Open 1-4



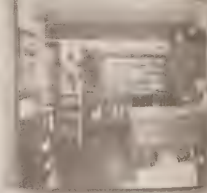
BERKELEY \$459,000
2/1 - Lovely bungalow short distance from North Berkeley BART and 4th Street shops and restaurants. Remodeled kitchen and bath. New deck and flagstone patio.
1225 Delaware Street Open 2-4



BERKELEY \$675,000
4/3 - Fabulous big house! Architect designed & built in 2002! Open floor plan, designer colors and kitchen. Fun, livable neighborhood. More at www.heldandjerri.com
1127 Bancroft Way Open 2-4



BERKELEY \$655,000
3/2 - Unique brown shingle artist retreat with magical outdoor spaces and Bay views! Newly renovated. More information at www.theoaklandjerry.com
1215 Queens Road Open 2-4



BERKELEY \$479,000
2/2 - Urban oasis near Berkeley BART. Artistic touches abound. Open beam hand-filled entry & baths, skylights, wood glass windows. Private garden.
2736 Milvia Street Open 2-4:30



EMERYVILLE - NEW LISTING! \$235,000
1/1 - Easy living condo for the active lifestyle with amenities galore. Courtyard views. New carpet, paint and fixtures. Best square footage in Watergate complex.
3 Captain Drive, #D304 Open 2-4



OAKLAND - NEW LISTING! \$424,000
Duplex - Maximum elegance in this spacious, remodeled duplex with 2 bedroom townhouse units. Big detached artist studio space. Must see to believe!
1129-1131 54th Street Open 2-4



OAKLAND - NEW LISTING! \$199,000
2/1 - Diamond in the rough! Classic turn-of-the-century home waiting for you to bring it back to its original charm.
1126 Wood Street Open 2-4



HERCULES \$289,500
2/2 - SPECTACULAR with Pergo floors throughout, designer colors, cathedral ceilings, plantation shutters, fireplace, serene view, A/C, attached garage, community pool.
385 Porthole Court Open 1:30-4:30

TOYS for TOTS



Visit any one of our 3 Red Oak Realty offices to drop off a new, non-giftwrapped toy for Toys for Tots.

By Appointment

EL CERRITO \$549,000
3+1/5 - Sunny, spacious Eichler style in the hills. Vaulted living room ceiling, renovated kitchen and baths. Large deck for private lounging. Near open space. Must see.

OAKLAND \$295,000
LOFT - Stunning loft in historic Calou building. Bold colors, skylight dome, exposed brick walls, remodeled kitchen & bath. Photos & more at www.redoakrealty.com.

BERKELEY \$373,000
2/1 - Dollhouse in best location convenient to all! Exceptionally sunny corner cottage with attached garage, big eat-in kitchen, and formal dining room.

OAKLAND \$1,295,000
5+3/5 - Brand new Craftsman lodge revival on an oak-studded parcel with 2 master suites and 3,500 square feet of fabulous details. Private yet close to everything.

ALBANY \$398,000
COMMERCIAL - A rare Solano Avenue cottage. Zoned C-1, this four room home is ideal for many uses and includes off-street parking. Call for details.

OAKLAND - NEW LISTING! \$425,000
Duplex - Unique building on an oversized lot with great potential! To be viewed with by appointment with listing agent only.

BERKELEY \$649,000
Fourplex - Very good condition low priced 2 one-bedroom units & 2 non-conforming studios. 3 units have been remodeled. Near lot, great neighborhood.

OAKLAND \$399,000
LOFT - Super fresh, spacious and soaring 2-level loft in historic Clawson building. Separate living mezzanine, large windows facing windows on both levels.

1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707
510.527.3387

2983 College Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94705
510.849.9990

2099 Pleasant Valley
Oakland, CA 94611
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Agent, Re/Max

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www.BerkeleyHomeValue.com

Agent, Re/Max

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

701 - 703 - 705 Buchanan Street, Albany



Three unit apartment building in Albany. Charming one bedroom units with bedroom and bath up, kitchen and living on lower level. Like a townhome. All units have hardwood floors, laundry area and a garage. Convenient location.

Offered at \$605,000



Carol Heath-Kim
(510) 525-2346

carolheathkim.realtor.com



New Listing!

OPEN SUNDAY DECEMBER 7, 2-4:30

Charming Country Cottage



4651 FAIR AVENUE, OAKLAND

This delightful home exudes warmth throughout and has the added bonus of Bay views from the back.

- 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath • Living Room
- Dining Room • Kitchen • Laundry • Plus Jazzy Outdoor Kitchen & Patio • Deck

Offered at \$450,000



**Sandi Nemmer
& Dick Cohen**

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MONDAY, 5 pm

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TUESDAY, 12 Noon

Open Home Guide

WEDNESDAY, 12 Noon



RED OAK REALTY

www.redoakrealty.com

JUST LISTED!

1743-1745 12th Street, Oakland

Offered at \$425,000

Unique duplex on an oversized lot. Great potential. To show by appointment with listing agent only.



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REALTOR® - 510.280.2145**

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805 The Uplands, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. The ballroom of the legendary Taylor estate! Huge flowing spaces adopted from an original 40 room mansion. 4BR/3BA. Vast living room/ballroom. Cavemous former stable below. Private setting, close to everything. Offered at \$1,250,000

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ptempleton@grubbco.com

FAYE KEOGH

652.2133/426

fkeogh@grubbco.com



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RED OAK REALTY

www.redoakrealty.com

JUST LISTED!

1126 Wood Street
Oakland

Offered at \$199,000

Open Sunday
December 7th, 2003



Diamond in the rough!
2 bedrooms, 1 bath classic turn-of-the-century home waiting for you to bring it back to its former glory.



**VIRGINIA JONES, SRES
REALTOR® - 510.280.2145**

1891 Solano Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707

The GRUBB Co.



5538 Broadway, Rockridge

COMING SOON. Craftsman bungalow with built-in woodwork and built-ins. Updated kitchen/bath. Two bedrooms, one bath, formal dining room, basement and detached garage on street level. Shops and BART! Offered at \$199,000

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OFFICE: 510.652.2133/415

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\$226,000 965 Shorepoint #207 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Main Island 510-393-5072 Kane & Associates Joanna Letizia	\$629,000 1708 Encinal Ave 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-523-8886 Kane & Associates Mindy Hart	\$559,000 1515 Oxford Unit 3B 2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-524-9888x16 Berkeley Hills Realty Jean Auka	\$235,000 3 Captain Dr #D304 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 510-292-2013 Red Oak Realty Todd Andrew	\$415,000 3301 Partridge Avenue 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-610-5000 Landmark Associates Sally Hays
\$237,000 960 Shorepoint Ct. 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 510-523-0707 Panavista Realty Ramesh	\$629,000 1708 Encinal Ave 3BD/2BA Open Sat 2-4 510-523-8886/919-3204 Kane & Associates Denise Brady/Dede Cunningham	\$570,000 1220 Haskell St. 7BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 510-339-8900 x262 C21 Heritage Real Estate Sheila Brox Crawford	\$289,500 385 Porthole Ct 2BD/2BA Open Sun 1:30-4 510-280-2166 Red Oak Realty Julie Cuelles	\$415,000 5324 Walnut Street 1BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 510-610-5000 ReMax Accord
\$274,000 229 Cypress 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-814-4847 Harbor Bay Realty Chuch Bianchi	\$648,000 2117 Encinal Ave 4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4 510-747-1620 Gallagher & Lindsey Moon Tam	\$589,000 1217 Curtis Street 4+BD/3BA Open Sun 1-3 Duplex 510-677-2677 Keller Williams Realty-Berkeley Betsaida Rosario	\$765,000 211 Arlington 3BD/3BA Open Sun 1-4:30 510-280-2108 Red Oak Realty Robin Kingsbury	\$424,000 1129-1131 54th St 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Duplex 510-610-5000 Red Oak Realty
\$340,000 1810 Central Ave #204 2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 Main Island 510-919-3204 Kane & Associates Dede Cunningham	\$680,000 1317 Grove St. 4BD/1+BA Open Sat & Sun 2-4 510-748-1110 Gallagher & Lindsey Ron Bang	\$655,000 1215 Queens Rd 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-835-6218 Red Oak Realty The Longs	\$199,000 1126 Wood St 2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 510-280-2145 Red Oak Realty Virginia Jones	\$445,000 300 Caldecott Lane #210 3BD/2BA Open Sat & Sun 2-4 510-610-5000 Kane & Associates Sally Hays
\$348,000 1919 Mintum 2BD/1.25BA Open Sun 2-4 510-521-1611/502-0437 Fortuna Realty Bob Cuccillara	\$899,000 18 Oyster Shoals 4BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4 510-814-4819 Harbor Bay Realty Nancy Evans-Blanchi	\$675,000 1127 Bancroft Way 4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4 510-835-6218 Red Oak Realty The Longs	\$225,000 8711 Mountain Blvd #28 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Oak Knoll 510-339-4000 Better Homes Realty Rosemary Greene	\$449,000 1355 Excelsior 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 510-610-5000 Pacific Union Real Estate
\$399,500 1314 Lincoln 2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-814-4845 Harbor Bay Realty Marilyn Pomeroy	\$950,000 1957 Kofman Pkwy 5BD Open Sun 2-4:30 510-521-1257/522-5827 Bayside Real Estate Nissa Dash/Dianna Wyman	\$929,000 35 Bay Forest Ct. 3+BD/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co. Chris Cohn	\$245,000 325 Vernon St. 1BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Adams Point 510-531-7000 x238 Wells & Bennett Realtors Patsy Buhler	\$449,000 79 Shadow Mountain 2BD/2BA Open Sat & Sun 2-4 510-610-5000 Richardson R.E. Services
\$439,000 1210 Pacific Ave 3BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 510-814-4871 Harbor Bay Realty Denise Garvine	\$1,200,000 2067 San Jose Ave 5BD/3.5BA Open Sat & Sun 2-4 510-814-4815 Harbor Bay Realty Nancy Gordon	\$1,250,000 305 The Uplands 4BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 510-652-2133 The Grubb Co. P. Templeton/F. Keogh	\$269,000 2569 Harrington Avenue 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-8900 x232 C21 Heritage Real Estate Dione Cota	\$450,000 4651 Fair Ave. 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 510-610-5000 Pacific Union Real Estate S. Klemmer
\$465,000 136 Parfait Ln 2BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4 510-814-4824 Harbor Bay Realty Darin Vinnal	\$ CALL 6 Invincible Ct 2+BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4 Marina Village 510-865-6550 Kane & Associates Wendy Sando	\$1,395,000 160 Gravatt Drive 4BD/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30 510-339-0400 The Grubb Co. Karen Starr	\$270,000 1707 65th Avenue 3BD/1BA Sun 2-5pm Assist-2-Sell 510-330-6330 Howard Kane	\$459,000 4088 Patterson Avenue 3BD/2BA Open Sun 1-4 Upper Laurel 510-610-5000 Coldwell Banker
\$479,000 3110 San Jose 3BD Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30 510-521-1647 Bayside Real Estate Quinn Stone	\$400,000 1191 Santa Fe 2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 510-280-2105 Red Oak Realty Sara Garbadian	\$1,650,000 1705 La Loma Ave. 4+BD/4.5BA Sun 2-4:30 510-338-1339 Pacific Union Real Estate Gini Erck	\$298,000 2207 57th Ave 2BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Mills College 510-339-8400 Better Homes Realty Paul Dileo	\$519,000 3130 Guide St. 3BD/2BA Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30 510-610-5000 Pacific Union Real Estate
\$485,000 2526 Washington Wy 2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 510-814-4709 Harbor Bay Realty Marilyn Schumacher	\$529,000 1052 Ordway St 2BD/- Open Sun 2-4 510-559-2933 Marvin Gardens Dee Plunkett	\$1,750,000 2245 Glen Ave. 4BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker Becky Andersen	\$298,000 3320 64th Ave Pl 2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Mill College 510-339-4000 Better Homes Realty Rosemary Greene	\$539,000 2628 Richmond 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Duplex 510-610-5000 Prudential Ca Realty
\$495,000 1440 Caroline St 3BD Open Sun 2-4:30 510-522-5827 Bayside Real Estate Ma r k Wyman	\$605,000 701-703-705 Buchanan St 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 510-525-2346 Prudential Ca Realty Carol Heath-Kim	\$2,300,000 1508 Grand View Drive 5+BD/4.5BA Sun 2-4:30 510-652-2133 The Grubb Co. Bebe McRae	\$299,000 2640 19th Ave. 3BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 San Antonio 510-531-7000 x242 Wells & Bennett Realtors Chris Christensen	\$549,000 8010 Hansom Dr 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Sequoyah Heights 510-610-5000 Better Homes Realty
\$495,000 2837 Adams 3BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30 510-531-7000 x295 Wells & Bennett Realtors Carol Robbiano	\$619,500 664 Key Route Blvd. 3BD/1.25BA Sun 2-4:30 510-339-8900 x254 C21 Heritage Real Estate Keith Tower	\$389,000 506-508 Liberty St -/- Open Sun 2-4 Duplex 510-559-2929 Marvin Gardens Herman Sun	\$329,000 3201 Boston Ave. 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Fruitvale 510-531-7000 x228 Wells & Bennett Realtors Kate Phillips	\$558,000 3985 Rhoda Ave 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-610-5000 Kane & Associates
\$529,000 3248 Encinal Ave 2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-521-1630 Bayside Real Estate Spatz	\$249,000 2366 Cedar St 1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-5 510-527-2700 x32 Marvin Gardens Richard Morrison	\$439,000 5709 Jordan Ave 3BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 510-848-1950 x250 Thornwall Properties Helen Walker	\$349,000 3577 Brookdale Avenue -BD/-BA Sun 2-4:30 Duplex 510-339-8900 x304 C21 Heritage Real Estate Cathy Truelove	\$569,000 7086 Sayre Drive 3BD/2BA Open Sat & Sun 2-4 510-610-5000 Coldwell Banker
\$549,000 2160 Buena Vista 3+BD/1+BA Open Sat & Sun 2-4 510-522-8749 Centennial Real Estate Linda Larkin	\$459,000 1225 Delaware St 2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 510-280-2171 Red Oak Realty Jennifer Fickenschner	\$479,000 1936 Downey Pl 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-559-2937 Marvin Gardens Diana Mendler	\$369,000 5372 Brookdale Avenue 2BD/1BA Sun 1-4pm Assist-2-Sell 510-530-6330 Howard Kane	\$579,000 1217-21 E 28th St 4-Plex Open Sat & Sun 2-4 510-610-5000 C21 Heritage Real Estate
\$579,000 317 Fair Haven Rd. 3 BD/2 BA Open Sun 2-4 510-430-9491 Gochen Realty Joseph Kim	\$469,900 2779 Acton St 2+BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 510-428-0900 Prudential Ca Realty Tom Kilgallen	\$495,000 1905 Tapscott Ave 3BD/1.5BA Open Sat/Sun 1-4 510-305-4014 Prudential Ca Realty John Forrest Bell	\$380,000 3674 Green Acre Rd. 3+BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30pm Valva Realty Co. 510-451-7317 Mike & Jose	\$599,000 1636 Trestle Glen Road 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-8900 x238 The Grubb Company
\$580,000 2441 Otis Dr 3+BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-748-1125 Gallagher & Lindsey Troy Staten	\$479,000 2736 Milvia St 2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 510-280-2159 Red Oak Realty Amanda Burton	\$515,000 2400 Tulare 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-524-9888x18 Berkeley Hills Realty Maya Trilling	\$399,000 2901 McKillop Rd. 2BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Lower Glenview 510-338-1334 Pacific Union Real Estate Vicki Woodhead	\$625,000 6463 Oakwood Dr 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-338-1303 Prudential Ca Realty
\$599,000 2800 Clay St. 3+BD/1.5BA Open Sat & Sun 2-4 510-748-1176/748-1174 Gallagher & Lindsey Lori Shea/Mario Mariani	\$479,500 1637 Stuart St. 2+BD/2BA Sun 1-4 510-486-1495 Coldwell Banker Azaria Berhane	\$525,000 3440 Yosemite 2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 510-559-2911 Marvin Gardens Joan Underwood	\$399,500 4356 Bermuda Ave. 3BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30 Redwood Heights 510-338-1303 Pacific Union Real Estate Wendy Gardner	\$629,000 6463 Oakwood Dr 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-338-1303 C21 Heritage Real Estate
\$599,000 615 Sheffield Rd 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 510-814-4874 Harbor Bay Realty Mark Playsted	\$489,000 1562 Juanita Way 2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 510-338-1375 Pacific Union Real Estate Nancy Hoover	\$462,500 34 El Paloma Ct. 4BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4 510-814-4826 Harbor Bay Realty Donnaluci Williams		

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6666 Sobrante Rd. 4BD/2.5BA Montclair Preston Grant \$849,900 Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Realty	4030 Reinhardt Dr 3BD/1.5BA Redwood Heights Patricia Bennett \$510-482-9000	5763 Scarborough 4+BD/3.5BA Piedmont Pines Heidi Marchesotti \$1,399,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential Ca Realty	146 Las Vegas Road 3BD/3BA 925-253-4601/510-547-1615 Coldwell Banker Jerilyn Babington	1519 Barth Ave 4BD/3BA Open Sun 1-4 Security Pacific R.E. Cynthia Burke
6216 Chilton Drive 3BD/2BA Montclair Pied.Pines Kate Castle \$929,000 Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	35 Bay Forest Ct. 3+BD/3.5BA Oakmore Chris Cohn \$949,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	6877 Elverton 3+BD/4.5BA Oakland Hills Karyn Selby Miller \$1,495,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	4277 Gilbert St. 2BD/1BA Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate Ashley O'Neill	2 Fallon Pl. #57 2BD/1BA Sun. 2-4:30 Russian Hill Ashley O'Neill
4349 Briar Cliff Rd 4BD/4BA Oakland Hills Vikki Landes \$949,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	1901 Rosecrest Drive 3BD/2.5BA Oakmore Becky Andersen \$949,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate	6151 Acacia Ave. 4BD/4+BA Claremont Pines Elizabeth Dickson \$1,549,000 Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	303 Olive Avenue 2BD/1BA Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. Nancy Lehrkind	200 Warwick Ave 1+BD/1BA Broadmoor Jim Shubert
4933 Stoneridge Ct. 3BD/2.5BA Ridgmont Sherry Benninger \$949,000 Sat. & Sun. 1-5 Pacific Union Real Estate	613 Via Rialto 4BD/3BA Oakland Hills Keith Tollas \$949,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate	5963 Wood Dr 5+BD/4+BA Piedmont Border Lorraine Osmundson \$1,595,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Millstein & Associates	166 Lake Ave. 2BD/1BA Classic Properties Clifford \$699,888 Open Sun 2-5 Classic Properties	1437 140th Ave 3BD/1BA Upper Bal Earle Shenk
961 Park Lane 4BD/3BA Crocker Highlands Kathy Flynn \$950,000 Sun. 2-4:30pm Edward Bell Realty	6163 Ridgmont Drive 3BD Oakland Hills Ed Bell \$950,000 Sun. 2-4:30pm Edward Bell Realty	55 Diablo Dr. 4BD/3.5BA Montclair Sheila Gallagher \$1,650,000 Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	24 Blair Ave. 4+BD/3BA Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate Ashley O'Neill	1680 Scenicview Dr 2BD/2BA Bay-O-Vista Rosemary Greene
5946 Colton 3BD/2BA Montclair Donna Conroy \$970,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential Ca Realty	6773 Sobrante Rd 3+BD/2.5BA Montclair Kriss Makris \$970,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential Ca Realty	1628 Grand View Dr. 5+BD/5BA Claremont Hills Gary Robinson \$1,730,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	300 Scenic Ave. 4+BD/3BA Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate Joanna Gould	8 Glen Alpine Rd. 5BD/4.5BA Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate Debi Fitzgerald
1443 Mountain Blvd. 3BD/1.5BA Montclair Carole Brown \$1,025,000 Sat. & Sun. 1-5 Pacific Union Real Estate	601 Via Rialto 4BD/3BA Oakland Hills Keith Tollas \$1,025,000 Sat. & Sun. 1-5 Pacific Union Real Estate	5 Diablo Dr. 5BD/5+BA Montclair Debra J. Dryden \$1,765,000 Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	8 Glen Alpine Rd. 5BD/4.5BA Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate Debi Fitzgerald	1780 Merritt Ave 2+BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Red Oak Realty Tim Scully
7045 Chabot Rd. 3BD/2.5BA Upper Rockridge Carla Buffington \$1,089,000 Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	1293 Sunnyhills Rd. 4BD/2.5BA Crocker Highlands D. Dimaggio & A. Betta \$1,089,000 Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	6 Perth Pl. 4BD/3BA Montclair Heidi Kearsley \$1,900,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors	1012 Francisca Ct 4+BD/2.5BA Sun. 2-4:30 Centennial Real Estate Truyen The Dang	5990 N. Arlington 510-662-8528 Security Pacific R.E. Cynthia Burke
6865 Oakwood Dr. 4BD/3.5BA Montclair Mavis Delacroix \$1,095,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential Ca Realty	6820 Thornhill Dr 4+BD/4BA Montclair Howard Converse \$1,095,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential Ca Realty	1508 Grand View Drive 5+BD/4.5BA Claremont Hills Erika Celestre \$2,300,000 Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.	2515 Gaynor Ave 3BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Security Pacific R.E. Marcella Morrison	33 Terraced Hills Wy 4BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Kane & Associates Kathie Ng
5303 Lawton Avenue 4BD/2BA Rockridge Debbi Dimaggio \$1,125,000 Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Company	195 Robie Road 3+BD/2.5BA Rockridge Ford/Plowright \$1,125,000 Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Company	20 Stephens Way 4+BD/3.5BA Claremont Hills Ellen L/Joan D. \$2,350,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	2609 Beach Head Ct 2+BD/3BA Sun. 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty Katie Dain	322 Coughlin St. 4BD/1.5BA Sat & Sun 1-4 Prudential CA Realty Daniel Fetterly
492 Staten #1401 2BD/2BA Lake Merritt TOM ERWIN \$1,195,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate	818 Northvale Rd. 7BD/4BA Crocker Highlands Joanna Hirsch \$1,195,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate	5616 La Salle Ave. 5+BD/5+BA Piedmont side of Mont. Debra J. Dryden \$2,988,000 Sun. 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.		
1235 Buckingham Blvd. 3+BD/2+BA Claremont Hills Judy Ackerman \$1,245,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	15 Live Oak Rd. 4+BD/3.5BA Claremont Heights David Eckert \$1,245,000 Sun. 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker	166 Samaria Lane 2BD/2BA 707-664-0106 or 707-332-8651 Open 11am-3pm		

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Friday, September 14, 2001

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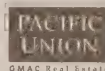
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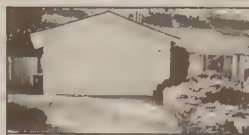
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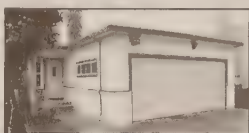
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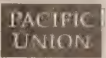
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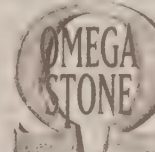
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BSAL SOCCER PREVIEWS

Piedmont, Kennedy out to defend soccer championships

Berean Christian girls would challenge the Highlanders this year

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER

For the three seasons of Bay Shore Athletic League girls soccer, there has been one standard success against which all other programs measure themselves: the Highlanders' High School.

The Highlanders, who finished 9-0-0 in 2002-03, have won the BSAL game and last season won the North Coast Sec-

tion 2A championship with a 1-0 overtime victory against Bishop O'Dowd.

But now there is a possibility that Piedmont's reign over the league could come to an end.

The reason? A numbers game. Berean Christian, which finished second in the BSAL last season at 7-1-1, returns six players while the Highlanders return only two.

"That would be nice," Berean coach Barbara Scoles said. "We do have a lot of players returning and I know Piedmont does not. It would be nice to take advantage of that."

"We only lost two players (first team all-leaguer Whitney Jacobsmeyer and second-teamer Amy Lindblom) but the majority of players are coming back and they've been with me for a while."

Scoles welcomes back senior sweeper Heather Oranje (first team All-BSAL), junior Valerie Barnes (second team) and sophomore Sarah Rutledge (second team). Other players Berean is counting on are Ashley Essy, Mary Beth Lee and Jenny Gustafson. Freshman Hayley

See GIRLS, Page 2

■ Eagle boys return eight starters from last year's NCS team

By Phil Jensen
STAFF WRITER

The Kennedy High School boys soccer team wrapped up the Bay Shore Athletic League title last season with a 13-game regular-season unbeaten streak that lasted over a month.

That will be hard to duplicate, but the Eagles are a favorite to defend their title this season. Bay Shore Athletic teams open league

play on Wednesday.

Kennedy returns eight starters from last year's team, which reached the North Coast Section 2A semifinals.

"The team is deeper than last year," Kennedy coach John Misztzi said.

Ignacio Gil, a senior stopper, and Armando Ramirez lead the defense. Micky Gil, a sophomore forward who was the team's third-leading scorer last season, also returns. Senior midfielder Juan Amador, the team's second-leading scorer last year, aggravated a quadriceps pull and has missed most of the season thus far.

Fernando Ochoa, a goalkeeper last season, moves to outside halfback this year.

"He's a powerful player and very strong midfielder," Misztzi said of Ochoa.

Kennedy, which is 1-1-1 this season, will certainly have competition for the league title.

Berean Christian has four starters back from last year's third-place BSAL squad. Berean is 0-4-1 this season but played in a recent tournament with very few players. It had only 10 players in one game.

See BOYS, Page 2

BSAL NOTEBOOK

Piedmont hopes Flato returns soon

By Orlando Molina
STAFF WRITER

THE PIEDMONT HIGH School boys basketball team was able to breathe easier after discovering Flato's shoulder injury was as serious as previously thought, said Highlanders' star Chris Lavdiotis.

Flato, the Highlanders' star, suffered what was thought to be a dislocated right shoulder during practice two weeks ago, but Lavdiotis said he was where between the ride to hospital and the emergency room at Alta Bates Hospital, preparation had "reduced it and slipped back into the joint."

He added, however, that X-rays did show evidence of a bone separation and an MRI performed to find damage to cartilage, of which there was none.

Flato immediately started physical therapy both on his own and with a therapist, Lavdiotis said. And the Yale-bound Flato has been practicing in contact drills.

Lavdiotis said Flato was going to make his return late next week, but such a notion was optimistic. Therefore, the best possible return would come next Tuesday.

Flato hopes to have him back earlier than later. He's a big

See BSAL, Page 2

BSAL SOCCER

Berkeley goes 3-1 in tourney

STAFF REPORT

SALASANTON — Kamani scored three goals and made two assists and Walker Toma scored two goals and an assist as Berkeley High School's soccer team claimed fifth place in the Winter Soccer Classic Gold Division with a 7-0 victory over Amador Valley High School last Friday.

The win was the third straight for Berkeley (5-1-0) after it won the tournament with a 4-0 win to Clayton Valley. It played evenly (against Hayward) and the level did not drop off. Yellow Jackets coach Juan Suarez said, "Sometimes you feel that when you put in the effort, but that was not the case."

Hayward 3, St. Mary's 2: Junior goalkeeper Andre Huff each scored a goal, but it wasn't enough as the Panthers (1-3) won a decision to the Farmington Bronze Division game of the Winter Soccer Classic at Piedmont High School on Saturday.

Freedom knocked off the Panthers 2-1 on Nov. 26 in the tournament. After Hayward's Eder Guzman gave his team a 1-0 lead, Berkeley scored again to make it 2-0. Huff scored with the team to knot the game at 2-2. In the end, however, Sean Dalgadillo scored a penalty kick in the 70th



ALEX ENSCOE of Berkeley, shown at a meet in October, placed 29th in the state Division I race at Woodward Park in Fresno.

Berkeley runner finishing fast

■ Senior Enscoe improves his finish at the state meet, will race at Mt. SAC event Saturday

By Bill Kruissink
STAFF WRITER

FRESNO — Berkeley High School senior Alex Enscoe is a race away from ending his high school cross country career.

After his strong showing at the California Interscholastic Federation state cross country meet at Woodward Park last Saturday, he will exit state competition having put his best foot forward.

Competing individually in Division I, Enscoe improved upon his previous year's finish at state, both in time and place. Third the previous week at the North Coast Section championships in Ukiah, he ran 29th in 15 minutes, 55 seconds, on the 3.1-mile course at the state meet. Last season, he was 36th with a time of 16:07.

"I knew I would run better than I had," he said. "I wanted to push myself to the physical limit. Give it everything I had. I think I accomplished that goal."

Enscoe easily stayed in the front quarter of the 203-runner pack. In the final 1,500 meters, he moved up several places to land in 29th.

PREP CROSS COUNTRY

"I passed a couple of guys and I wanted to catch De La Salle's Carey Matthews, close the gap, but I couldn't," Enscoe said. "I think Woodward Park suited me better than Ukiah."

Matthews was one second and one place ahead of Enscoe. On the other hand, the week before at the North Coast Section championships, Matthews wound up second, beating Enscoe by 18 seconds. At least Enscoe was closing the gap as the season ended.

This Saturday, Enscoe will compete in the Foot Locker cross country championships at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut.

Don Lugo-Chino won the Division I team race with 56 points. Its top five runners were all in the top 21. Individually, Rancho Cucamonga's Andrew Trinidad was first, crossing the finish line in 15:31.

Berkeley's Ariel Zucker ran 105th in the girls Division I race with a time of 20:02. While the Berkeley girls ran incomplete in Ukiah, Zucker qualified for state by finishing sixth in 20:38.

Ventura won the Division I girls title with 98 points. It had all five of its scorers among the



ALBANY'S Sean Carey pushes toward the finish line en route to a 37th-place finish in the Division IV race at the state championships.

top 29 runners.

Competing as an individual in Division IV, Albany senior Sean Carey ran 37th. His time of 16:54 took a second off his 2002 finish at state and moved him eight places higher in the results. Carey was third at NCS in 17:01.

Carmel won the boys Division IV race with 73 points. Duarte's Mohamed Trifan repeated as Division IV champion, stopping the clock in 15:16.

Conspicuous in her absence at this year's state meet was St. Mary's junior Gabriela Rios-

Sotelo. Fourth at NCS the week before, she opted out of this year's state meet due to an injury to her left leg. She decided Friday morning not to run.

"We wanted to see how I looked this week," Rios-Sotelo said. "Me and (St. Mary's coach Denis) Mohun decided it would be best not to run (Saturday)."

Last fall, Rios-Sotelo was third at state in Division IV, running the course in 18:30.

Staff writer Phil Jensen contributed to this story.

ACCAL NOTEBOOK

Oilers off to hot start in soccer

By Phil Jensen
STAFF WRITER

TALK ABOUT FAST starts. The Richmond High School boys soccer team has bolted to a 3-1-1 record in nonleague play and reached the championship game of the Winter Soccer Classic Gold Division.

"I think we played fairly well in the tournament. But the level and the preparation of all teams isn't very high because we've all just started, so you can't draw any conclusions from what's been played. I think it showed us what we have to work on," Richmond coach Rene Siles said.

In the Winter Soccer Classic Gold Division championship game, the Oilers pushed Amador Valley to the limit on Saturday before falling 2-1 in a second sudden death overtime period. Siles points to Richmond's first game of the tournament against James Logan on Nov. 24 as a key game for his team. The Oilers beat the Colts 3-0.

"It was the first time we played together well this year," Siles said.

Richmond then beat Foothill 3-1 before defeating De La Salle 2-0 last Friday in tournament play. Siles said he did not think Richmond had beaten De La Salle since 1994.

Jorge Rodriguez leads the team with three goals in the young season, but seven players have scored for the Oilers in five games, showing outstanding offensive depth.

Richmond also has set up most of its goals with passes. Seven of its 10 goals had assists with six players contributing, including two by Hugo Cruz in the Foothill win.

The Oilers have produced their successful record despite a brutal opening schedule, which included a 1-1 tie with Monte Vista to start the season on Nov. 22.

See ACCAL, Page 2

ON DECK

Prep boys basketball

■ Jeremy Jack Invitational Tournament, 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. today through Saturday, at Salesian — The final round robin games of the tournament features Hercules vs. Albany at 5:30 p.m.

Prep boys soccer

■ Albany at St. Mary's, 3:30 p.m. today — This will be a test for both of the local squads.

Prep girls soccer

■ Berkeley at El Cerrito, 3:30 p.m. Monday — The Yellow Jackets begin their quest to defend their Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League title by taking on the Gauchos.

Stars of the week

■ Kamani Hill, Berkeley boys soccer — Hill scored a hat trick with two assists in the Yellow Jackets' 7-0 dismantling of Pittsburg in the fifth-place match of Saturday's Winter Soccer Classic.

■ Courtney Dunn, St. Mary's girls basketball — Dunn played a big role in the Panthers' notching their first win of the season in last Tuesday's 59-48 win over Pinole Valley. Dunn led the team with 19 points, 13 rebounds and three blocks.

BRIEFS

Sorcerer tryouts

Tryouts for the new 14-under Sorcerer softball summer team will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6 at Willow Pass Park #2 in Concord and at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13 at Alhambra High School in Martinez. Coached by John Rebstock and assisted by Bob Luis, Laura Ferreira and Robin Flier, Sorcerer is envisioned as a team for elite age-group players. For information contact Phil Mummata at 925-825-6274, the Sorcerer Softball Academy at 925-806-0504 or visit the Web site at www.sorcerersoftball.com.

Tryouts for the Sorcerer Softball 18 Gold and 18A summer teams will be held jointly at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 at Willow Pass Park #2 in Con-

cord and at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 at Alhambra High School in Martinez. Sorcerer 18 Gold is the 2002 & 2003 18A National Champions and is coached by Phil Mummata.

Sorcerer 18A is a new team and will be coached by Alhambra High's Dave Carter. For further information contact Phil Mummata at 925-825-6274, the Sorcerer Softball Academy at 925-806-0504 or visit the Web site at www.sorcerersoftball.com.

Albany Little League registration

Albany Little League will be holding registration for the spring season for new players Dec. 10 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Cornell School cafeteria on Cornell Ave. south of Solano. Returning

players should sign up online. Resident requirements and age limits apply. Players must be born on or before July 31, 1997. Proof of residence and a birth certificate copy are required. For information visit www.albanylittleleague.org.

Midway Shelter 5K run

The Annual Midway Shelter 5K Run will be held Dec. 6, starting at 9 a.m. at the Harbor Bay Ferry Terminal in Alameda. Race-day entrants should report between 7:30-8:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$15 and the proceeds benefit abused women and children and the homeless. For further information, contact Mark Hovernal at 510-523-2647.

4-on-4 flag football tourney

A 4-on-4 flag football tournament will be held Dec. 20 in Hayward. The

deadline to register is Dec. 15. For information call Chuck at 510-907-0146.

East Bay Bat Busters seek players

The East Bay Bat Busters 14-under ASA girl's fastpitch organization is looking for players for its spring/summer season. For information call Danny Gomez at 925-584-5979.

El Cerrito alumni soccer game

The annual El Cerrito High School alumni soccer game will be held Jan. 7 at 5:30 p.m. on the football field at ECHS. For information call Fred Gonzalez at 510-524-8960.

See BRIEFS, Page 2

Briefs

FROM PAGE 1

Panthers basketball registration

The East Bay Panthers Girls' Basketball Club is accepting applications for the spring and summer 2004 season. Teams will be formed for girls who will be ages 10-14 on Jan. 1, 2004. Deadline for applications is Jan. 31. Tryouts will be held in February and play at the competitive AAU level will begin in March. For information e-mail at eastbaypanthers@yahoo.com or visit www.lafayettepanthers.org for applications.

13-under Blue & Gold basketball tourney

Berkeley Youth Alternatives will be holding the Blue & Gold Basketball Tournament for the 13-under division Dec. 19-21 at the Emery High School gym in Emeryville. The cost is \$75 per team or \$15 for individuals with a guarantee of

two games. For information call 510-845-9066 or e-mail at sports@byaonline.org.

11-under Blue & Gold basketball tourney

Berkeley Youth Alternatives will be holding the Blue & Gold Basketball Tournament for the 11-under division Dec. 5-7 at the BYA gym at 1255 Alston Way in Berkeley. The cost is \$75 per team or \$15 for individuals with a guarantee of two games. For information call 510-845-9066 or e-mail at sports@byaonline.org.

Winter youth basketball

Berkeley Youth Alternatives is taking registration for its winter youth basketball program. The Pee Wee division for ages 6-8 meets from 10 a.m. to noon every Saturday and the All Net division for ages 9-11 meets 4:30-6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The fee is \$15 for Berkeley residents and \$20 for non-residents. For information call 510-845-9066.

Hitting camp

Head coach Dirk Morrison and the Cal State Hayward baseball program are offering a hitting camp for play-

ers of all ages. The camp is a three-session series. Campers have the option of signing up for lessons beginning 6:30-8 p.m. either Dec. 16 or Dec. 17 and concluding Dec. 22-23 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1-3 p.m. The cost is \$100. For information call 510-885-3046.

Pitching camp

Head coach Dirk Morrison and the Cal State Hayward baseball program are offering a pitching camp for players of all ages. The camp is a three-session series. Campers have the option of signing up for lessons beginning 8-9 p.m. either Dec. 16 or Dec. 17 and concluding Dec. 22-23 from 10-11 a.m. or 3-4 p.m. The cost is \$70. For information call 510-885-3046.

Knights semi pro football tryouts

The Alameda County Knights semi pro football team will be holding tryouts on Saturdays through April at 2 p.m. at Washington Park in Alameda. The cost is \$25 and includes shorts and a T-shirt. For information call 510-533-6375.

Girls

FROM PAGE 1

Oranje, Heather's sister, will be in goal.

Piedmont returns senior sweeper Robin Brown and junior goalie Rosie Aguilera.

While Piedmont and Berean are the class of the league, both Salesian and St. Mary's could have a say as to who becomes the league champion.

Boys

FROM PAGE 1

"We haven't played any game yet with all our starters," Berean Christian coach Gary Weidenbach said. "Every game we were missing at least three starters."

Midfielder Ross Crown, forward Loren Baker, fullback Parker Gustafson and left half-back Steve Mindrup, who are all seniors, lead Berean. Baker is a returning first-team all-league

Salesian's Andrea Salvador, the league MVP, leads a group of four Chieftain seniors who hope to improve on the team's fourth-place, 5-2-2 finish last season. The others are Priscilla Garcia, Thea Ricchauto and goalkeeper Morgan James.

"We are very young," Salesian coach Jeff Lindquist said. "We have four seniors, one junior and the other 11 players are either freshmen or sophomores. I don't see why we can't (make) a run for the title; it all depends upon

how our younger players perform to the varsity level."

St. Mary's finished last season at 6-2-1, but was in Paris Vega and second-leaguer Margot Gonsky moved to Portugal.

The Panthers have a core of players including Casey, Brielle Plump, Avila Reed, Erika Natashia Matteson, St. Mary's boys coach Teale Matteson.

its squad, the highest coach Bill Peria's team. The Indians are led by first-team all-league Mike Dav. Gonzalez, who is scoring last season. St. Patrick, which is underclassmen on its cause it doesn't have a varsity team this season, by senior Lowell Laurence Lee. Lower turning first-team player.

SCOREBOARD

BOYS

CIF state championships

5K, at Woodward Park, Fresno
DIVISION I
Team scores: Don Lugo-Chino 106, Raymond-Santa Clara 106, Madera Valley 56, Santa Clara 125, University-SF 132, Stanislaus 166, Woodcrest Christian 162, Redwood Christian 229, Webb 248, St. Margaret 263, Head-Royce 270, Tri-City Christian 271, Valley Christian 285, Beran Christian 216, College Prep 342, Mission Prep 374, Antioch-San Juan Bautista 438, Coast Union 439, Julian 481, Mt. Shasta 486, Yacovitz Christian 517, The Priests School 595.
DIVISION II
Team scores: Maranatha 105, Fintbridge 115, Santa Clara 125, University-SF 132, Stanislaus 166, Woodcrest Christian 162, Redwood Christian 229, Webb 248, St. Margaret 263, Head-Royce 270, Tri-City Christian 271, Valley Christian 285, Beran Christian 216, College Prep 342, Mission Prep 374, Antioch-San Juan Bautista 438, Coast Union 439, Julian 481, Mt. Shasta 486, Yacovitz Christian 517, The Priests School 595.

Girls

CIF state championships

5K, at Woodward Park, Fresno
DIVISION I
Team scores: St. John Bosco-Bellflower 114, Carmichael 141, Jesuit-Carmichael 162, Valparaiso 163, College Park 165, Gunn-Palo Alto 167, San Ramon Valley 167, Orange 162, Subana-Hesperia 164, Mira Costa-Mantahan Beach 164, Brea-Olinda-Brea 164, Loyola-LA 168, Maria Carrizosa-Rosa 165, Rossmore 170, Western 171, University City-San Diego 170, Woodcreek-Roseville 167, Monte Vista-Spring Valley 172, West Hills-West 171, Santa Rosa 172, Pleasant Valley 172, Granite Bay 174, Roseville-Fresno 180.
DIVISION II
Team scores: Ventura 98, Murreta Valley 122, Canyon County 140, Ayala 158, Santa Clara 125, University-SF 132, Stanislaus 166, Woodcrest Christian 162, Redwood Christian 229, Webb 248, St. Margaret 263, Head-Royce 270, Tri-City Christian 271, Valley Christian 285, Beran Christian 216, College Prep 342, Mission Prep 374, Antioch-San Juan Bautista 438, Coast Union 439, Julian 481, Mt. Shasta 486, Yacovitz Christian 517, The Priests School 595.

Chino Hills-Chino 309, Presentation-S J 321, Enterprise-Roseville 325, Harvard-Westlake 329, Redwood-Larkspur 349, Yucca Valley 351, Burlingame 358, Valley Central-Antelope Valley 406, Del Oro-Loomis 421, St. Francis-Mountain View 460, Claremont-San Diego 484, University-San Diego 536, Shafter 551, Porterville 672.

Top 25 individuals

Mohamed Tassaf (Quarte) 15 16, Alex Dunn (SLV) 15 24, Anthony Mercad (Mar) 15 24, Ruben Ramirez (Luz) 15 45, Dylan Jaquette (FV) 15 45, Jack Kellogg (RC) 15 45, Babe Wagner (Hie) 15 45, Randy Pensinger (EC) 15 47, Ely Quintana (EC) 15 47, Patrick Miller (Mn) 15 48, Jason Pedroni (PV) 15 48, Alfred Gonzales (DL) 15 49, Felipe Tesf (DL) 15 49, Hector Mendez (RC) 15 50, Scott Smith (DH) 15 50, Ryan Grady (PV) 15 50, Ben Kessen (DL) 15 50, Sergio Gonzalez (PV) 15 52, Lolo Inlander 29, Alex Enace (Berkeley) 15 55.
DIVISION II
Team scores: St. John Bosco-Bellflower 114, Carmichael 141, Jesuit-Carmichael 162, Valparaiso 163, College Park 165, Gunn-Palo Alto 167, San Ramon Valley 167, Orange 162, Subana-Hesperia 164, Mira Costa-Mantahan Beach 164, Brea-Olinda-Brea 164, Loyola-LA 168, Maria Carrizosa-Rosa 165, Rossmore 170, Western 171, University City-San Diego 170, Woodcreek-Roseville 167, Monte Vista-Spring Valley 172, West Hills-West 171, Santa Rosa 172, Pleasant Valley 172, Granite Bay 174, Roseville-Fresno 180.

Woods Fouled out: Warren

Highlights: EC — Randall 5 points in 4th quarter

Girls

Nonleague

St. Mary's 59, Pinole Valley 48
PINOLE VALLEY (0-1)
Jalisco Roth 4:12-9, Mawili Arnold 2:4-4, Jordale Smith 7:3-17, Sabie Harrison 3:0-2-5, Jasmira Smith 2:3-7, Kelly Gae 0:2-2-2, Jennifer Jordan 0:0-1-0 Totals 15 17-22-48
ST. MARY'S (1-0)
Christina Thomas 0:0-0-0, Erin Johnson 0:0-0-0, Natty Frigo 4:0-0-0, Christina Johnson 0:1-6, Chantell Sead 4:0-1-6, Sonja Dami 0:0-0-0, Courtney Dunn 7:5-19, Marquette Lewis 0:2-2-2, Nicole Thompson 5:5-15 Totals 23 12-16-59
Pinole Valley 6 12 22 8-48
St. Mary's 17 15 12 5-59
3-point goals: Harrison, Frigo Fouled out: Thomas
Highlights: SM — Dunn 13 rebounds, 3 blocks, Thompson 8 rebounds, 6 steals, PV — Ja. Smith 5 rebounds, Roth 5 rebounds, Jordan 5 rebounds
Berkeley 66, Freedom 33
FREDOM
Samantha Rodrigues 2:2-6, Megan Christian 0:4-3, Amanda Medina 4:0-2-9, Kyla Lara 3:2-8-8, Rianan Thomas 0:1-1-2, Jamie Mason 0:1-7-1, Brittany Thompson 5:5-15 Totals 12 8-18-33
BERKELEY (2-0)
Beth Bern-Stevens 1:1-2-3, Kelly Griffin 1:0-4-2, Kim Soo Hoo 1:0-2, Lydia Tolbert 2:3-4-7, Tamecia Johnson 1:0-5-5, Joy White 3:5-7-11, Brittany Moore 2:0-5-5, Shavalee James 0:0-0-0, Amber Cox 9:2-4-2, Emily Dunn 0:4-4, Brittany Myles 9:3-3-2, Alexandra Mitchell 2:4-4 Totals 23 19-33-66
Freedom 0 0 8 8-33
Berkeley 12 16 25 33-66
3-point goals: Moore, Medina

ACCAL

FROM PAGE 1

"Each year, it's been harder," said Sales about the nonleague schedule since he started coaching the team in the 2000-

BSAL

FROM PAGE 1

contact player, he enjoys it," Lavdiotis said.

In the meantime, Lavdiotis is trying to create as many positives as he can from the situation, seeing Flato's absence as an opportunity for some of his younger players to step up.

"We have to take this and use it as a positive to grow so they're not so dependent on Eric. It's an opportunity to ex-

2001 season. "I think each year it's getting more difficult and each year the kids have risen to the level."

The Oilers continue their rough schedule Saturday, when they host defending Bay Shore Athletic League champion

pand our own balance on the team," he said.

The idea seems to have worked as the Highlanders won their season opener last Saturday, 57-48 over Middletown.

Brandon Paris led the way with 19 points and 15 rebounds.

On the girls' side, the Highlanders also found their share of success with a 65-31 win over Castlemont.

Courtney Paris scored a game-high 23 points, followed by

Kennedy at 6 p.m. Paris

opens up league play with rules on Tuesday. Other ing-round boys soccer matches include El Cerrito, Berkeley, De Anza and Valley and Encinitas.

Ashley Paris' 18 points Highlanders held the break and outscorers 35-8 in the second

SOCCER

The Kennedy boys' team battled rain and a 2-2 tie with Bishop in nonleague play.

The Eagles took a first half until the 37th when Felipe Cervantes

the game. Eduardo was credited for the assist scored Kennedy in the 14th minute

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Reviews

FROM PAGE C3

"MYSTIC RIVER": There are many reasons to admire this dark drama, from the remarkable level of acting talent to the maturity and measured elegance of Clint Eastwood's direction. The film stimulates its audience like a classic old-fashioned mystery, the tension building to almost painful levels. Two tragedies lie at its heart, with breakout performances by Sean Penn and Tim Robbins as childhood friends forever shaped by ominous events. — M. Pols. (R: language, violence.) 2 hours, 17 minutes. **A-**

"PIECES OF APRIL": With a theme about a dying mother (Patricia Clarkson), an estranged daughter (Katie Holmes), and a Thanksgiving dinner reunion, this film from writer/director Peter Hedges has the potential to be as cloying as sweet potato pie. But Hedges ("What's Eating Gilbert Grape") gracefully dodges that bullet, delivering a movie that manages to be darkly funny and deeply touching at the same time. Clarkson shines, Holmes advances past Joey Potter and there are lovely supporting performances from Oliver Platt as the dad and newcomer Alison Pill as the thoroughly vexing younger sister. — M. Pols. (PG-13: language, sensuality, drug content and images of nudity.) 1 hour, 21 minutes. **A-**

"RADIO": Tolerance for this gushy sentimental high school sports flick depends on whether you've been booting or rooting on the sidelines for its star, Cuba Gooding Jr. He plays a shy loner who collects radios and becomes mascot, cheerleader and golfer for South Carolina sports teams in the '60s. Based on a true story, it is nonetheless too maudlin and adoring to be effective. — D. Germain. (PG: mild language, thematic elements.) 1 hour, 46 minutes. **C+**

"SCARY MOVIE 3": The Wayans brothers have passed the scary-movie spoof baton to the "Airplane" guys, with tepid results. The movie has no edge, no "flava." It plays like 80 minutes of "Naked Gun" rejects, complete with an aging, less funny Leslie Nielsen, a spluttering Charlie "Hot Shots!" Sheen, and for good measure, Pamela Anderson. — R. Moore. (PG-13: pervasive crude and sexual humor, language, comedic violence and drug references.) 1 hour, 20 minutes. **D**

"SCHOOL OF ROCK": Jack Black stars as Dewey Finn in this happy, crowd-pleasing package with an offbeat, slightly demented script. He's a guitarist with delusions of being a musical deity. Fired from his latest ensemble, desperate for

cash to enter a battle-of-the-bands contest and have his revenge, Dewey passes himself off as his substitute-teacher roommate (Mike White) and takes a job at a swank prep school. Put Black in a classroom of uptight, uniformed over-achievers who now have an aimless sub for a teacher, and watch the sparks fly. — R. Moore. (PG-13: rude humor and drug references.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. **B+**

"SHATTERED GLASS": In this based-on-true-life tale, one of the '90s most infamous journalists, New Republic staff writer Stephen Glass (Hayden Christensen), gets caught making up stories. We watch, with great satisfaction, as his web of lies is slowly revealed by his editor (Peter Sarsgaard). With his effective, slimy performance, Christensen proves there is life beyond Anakin Skywalker. — M. Pols. (PG-13: language.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. **B**

"THE STATION AGENT": A retired dwarf, a grieving mother and a chatty hot-dog vendor walk into a bar. Actually, they drink beer on a porch, but you get the idea. It sounds like the setup to a joke, but it's the premise of this small film bursting with insightful humor, unforced poignancy and beautifully drawn characters. Peter Dinklage, Patricia Clarkson and Bobby Cannavale vividly portray three lonely people in rural New Jersey who form an unlikely social circle, despite their antisocial tendencies. That they're all oddballs and misfits may sound a bit too precious, but writer-director Tom McCarthy has developed the characters beautifully. — C. Lemire. (R: language, some drug content.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. **B+**

"SYLVIA": The illustrated Sylvia Plath, focusing on the love story between the doomed American poet, played convincingly here by Gwyneth Paltrow, and her husband, Ted Hughes (Daniel Craig). Christine Jeffs' film is very pretty and quite moving in places, but it doesn't shed any new light on the life and death of the last century's most celebrated female poet. John Brownlow's script is generally overly polite and cautious, but it does make one dangerous leap, a suggestion for the motivation behind Plath's suicide that scholars will probably dispute. Paltrow's mother, Blythe Danner, shows up as Plath's mother, a great bit of casting that feels wasted when we only get one sharp, suggestive scene between them. — M. Pols. (R: sexuality, nudity and language.) 1 hour, 50 minutes. **B-**

"TIBET: CRY OF THE SNOW LION": Tom Peasay's documentary is an impeccably made and often moving account of the captive nation of Tibet, forcibly annexed by China more than 50 years ago. Using material gathered during 10 years, the film

functions as both a breathtaking travelogue and a political provocation, offering convincing evidence of the Chinese government's determination to wipe out Tibetan culture and identity. — D. Kehr. (NR) 1 hour, 40 minutes. **B+**

"TUPAC: RESURRECTION": Those who think that Tupac Shakur faked his own death will see this feature-length documentary as more reason to believe that 'Pac lives. That's because, through the magic of clever editing of extensive MTV interviews, Shakur, who comes off as charismatic and contemplative, narrates the movie himself. The artist's criminal troubles are addressed, and he is portrayed as deeply flawed, if always aware of his own failings. Shakur's articulate arguments for his own importance are such that open-minded naysayers will have to grudgingly admit that the polarizing rapper and actor was a fascinating, talented figure. — D. DeLuca. (R: profanity, sex, violence.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. **B**

"UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN": Generalizations are risky, but any one wanting to know the answer to the eternal question "What do women want?" (or rather, women over 35) need look no farther than Audrey Wells' frothy adaptation of Frances Mayes' best seller. A woman (Diane Lane) gets dumped, despairs, goes sightseeing in Italy, buys a run-down villa in a small Tuscan hill town, cooks fabulous meals for friends, takes a gorgeous lover and essentially assumes a whole new identity. This is how we should all be dumped. The really nice thing about the movie, aside from Lane's warm, vulnerable performance, is its focus on how we recover from lost love, rather than the pursuit of a fresh one. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content, language.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. **B+**

"WINGED MIGRATION": Jacques Perrin's breathtaking documentary of migrating birds transports you to an exalted realm, where nature operates under its own inviolable laws. For much of the movie, filmed over three years using five crews — including 17 pilots and 14 cinematographers — the camera flies alongside, above and below many species of birds as they make their annual round trips. It may sound facetious, but "Winged Migration" provides such an intense vicarious experience of being a flapping airborne creature that you leave the theater feeling like an honorary member of another species. — S. Holden. (G) 1 hour, 39 minutes. **A**

Rags-to-riches 'Honey' lacks flava

By Mary F. Pols
TIMES STAFF WRITER

The title character of "Honey" is a bartender by night, a dance teacher by day, and an aspiring choreographer 24/7. But her gifts don't stop there. She also has a soft spot for underprivileged children and a deep social conscience. Drop a dollar bill in front of her and she'll hand it back to you with a humble dip of her long dark eyelashes. She's as sugary sweet as her name implies, fairly dripping with goodness.

Honey, last name Daniels, is portrayed by Jessica Alba, the sultry star of television's "Dark Angel." She scowled her way through that role, and she smiles her way through this one. Despite her extraordinary Jennifer Beals-esque beauty, Alba's "Dark Angel" scowl grew tedious, but compared to her omnipresent grin in "Honey," it seems at least closer to natural.

Alba's limitations as an actress aren't much of an issue, however. Set in some rough corner of New York City, "Honey" is scripted as a cross between "Flashdance," "Glitter" and one of those Mickey Rooney-Judy Garland movies where they put on a show. Honey is spotted doing her hip-hop dancing one night in the club where she bartends and, before you know it, is choreographing videos for music stars Ginuwine, Tweet and Missy Elliott. This feels like a page from the Paula Abdul biography.

In short, there's not a lot of depth or tension in this rags-to-riches story; it hits all the expected plot points, from the big break to the friendships that suffer as a result, the doubting parent (Loretta McKee) who must learn to have faith in her child, and the ultimate unveiling of a mentor with nefarious intentions.

What's curious about "Honey," and would be admirable if it weren't so unintentionally silly, is the way it takes time out from Honey's career path to explore her concern for the downtrodden children of the 'hood. Since she's a saint, she likes all troubled young people, but in the course of the movie becomes particularly fixated on a pair of young



JESSICA ALBA has the title role in "Honey," which will remind you of "Flashdance" and "Glitter."

REVIEW

■ WHAT: "Honey"

■ STARRING: Jessica Alba, Lil' Romeo, Mekhi Phifer, Joy Bryant, David Moscow, Zachary Isiah Williams, Missy Elliott, Ginuwine, Tweet

■ RATING: PG-13 (drug content and some sexual references)

■ RUNNING TIME: 1 hour, 34 minutes

■ WHERE: Opens today at area theaters

■ GRADE: C-

brothers from the projects, Benny (rap star Lil' Romeo) and Raymond (Zachary Isiah Williams, a moppet with the cutest Afro going), whose neglectful mother has a bad boyfriend. Without some intervention, they will be on the fast track to becoming hoodlums.

Benny is supposed to be a talented dancer, whose great "flava" inspires Honey to new heights of creativity. But while the 14-year-old Lil' Romeo has plenty of natural sass, he does not move well. Each time he has a dance solo, it's a disappointment. Why these kids are in the movie is a mystery, unless the intent is to broaden the appeal, already rooted in the teenage set, to even younger children.

Alba herself may not be graceful — not that the jerky hip-hop style of dance requires much in

the way of grace — but her spunky, energetic and today's climate of materialism, they seem to have needed, stands out as an impressive physical specimen.

David Moscow, director Michael Elia's sports jerseys and on a day when he has to shower Michael Elia's capacity to crush a bug if, say, she does request for some booty language is the standard "Honey," but Alba stumbles it repeatedly, sounding like a white girl trying to be cool (failing).

The part of Honey's naive boyfriend is filled by some Mekhi Phifer ("Boyz n the Hood," "ER"), who doesn't have to do but serve as eye candy, the largely teenage screening audience seem appreciate.

The most winning in "Honey" is Honey's friend, Gina (Joy Bryant, who also starred in "Boyz n the Hood," "ER"), sashays her way into the movie, making the every tired line she's in which include many demands of "listen girl, you've got to let's hope her own talent her the thankless task of to elevate any more drama one.

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Events

FROM PAGE C5

Ites and Skulls, Race Bannon, Dec. 5, 9:30 p.m. \$7
7th Direction, Pocket, Dec. 6, 9:30 p.m. \$5
Hanson Brothers, The Rotters, Dec. 9, 9 p.m. \$10
Ebb and Flow, Anton Barbeau, Dec. 11, 9:30 p.m. \$5
Kevin Cadogan, Jesse DeNatale, Noelle Hampton, Dec. 12, 9:30 p.m. \$6
Pinback, Aspects of Physics, Dec. 13, 9:30 p.m. \$12

For ages 21 and over unless otherwise noted. Sunday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 510 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082

STORK CLUB — Kollateral, Sabre Tooth Tiger, Dec. 5.
Michael Thick, Dec. 9
The New Fester Bigger, The Golden Sink, Dec. 10
Plan to Pink, Dec. 11
Fracas, Angry for Life, Dec. 12
Stage Rage, Second Date, The Woody, Dec. 13

\$5. All shows at 9 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 2330 Telegraph Ave., Oakland 510-444-6174 or www.storkclubbookland.com.

YOSHIS — Taj Mahal, through Dec. 7 \$22 to \$26
SoVoso, Dec. 8, \$14

Jacqui Naylor, Dec. 9 and Dec. 10. \$14
Gonzalo Rubalcaba Trio, Dec. 11 through Dec. 14, \$12 to \$20
 Shows are Monday through Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland. 510-238-9200. www.yoshis.com or www.ticketweb.com

CLASSICAL MUSIC

CHAMBER MUSIC SUNDAYS — A series of Sunday chamber music programs by San Francisco Symphony and friends. All shows begin at 3:15 p.m.

Dec. 14: A performance of music by Dvorak, Mendelssohn and Golubev \$18 general; \$14 seniors, students; \$7 youth under age 18. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. 415-584-5946 or www.chambermusicundays.org

CAL PERFORMANCES — The Tallis Scholars, Dec. 10, 8 p.m. A program of pre-1850 music, with works by De Monte, Allegri and Palestrina.

\$42. First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. 510-642-9988 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu

CROWDEN SCHOOL AND CENTER FOR MUSIC IN THE COMMUNITY — SUNDAYS AT FOUR — Seven family-friendly chamber music performances Dec. 14, 4 p.m. "Beethoven's Birthday Bash." A program of music by Beethoven

\$12 general; free for youth ages 18 and younger. 1475 Rose St., Berkeley 510-559-6910 or www.thecrowdenschool.org

KITKA — "Wintersongs with Kitka," Dec. 7, 7 p.m. The women's vocal ensemble will perform songs and carols from Bulgaria, Macedonia, Croatia, Hungary, Romania, Latvia, Russia, Serbia and Ukraine, among others.

\$18 to \$20 general; \$15 seniors, students. Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, 1330 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland. 510-444-0323 or www.kitka.org

OAKLAND CIVIC ORCHESTRA — "Music for the Whole Family," Dec. 14, 3 p.m. Performing music by Bach, Strauss and Tchaikovsky.

Free. Veteran's Memorial Building, 200 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-238-3896

OAKLAND INTERFAITH GOSPEL CHOIR — "The 18th Annual Christmas Concert," Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m. Per-

forming traditional gospel music, spirituals and gospel arrangements of traditional Christmas songs

\$10 to \$35. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 510-465-6400 or www.oigc.org

SAN FRANCISCO EARLY MUSIC SOCIETY — "This Endless Night," Dec. 13, 8 p.m. The Concord Ensemble performs music from Christmases past and present.

\$22 to \$25. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-528-1725 or www.sfems.org

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY CHAMBER SINGERS — "Candlelight Christmas," Dec. 6, 8 p.m. A diverse program of music including Renaissance motets and contemporary spirituals sung a cappella and with accompaniments. Joshua Habermann conducting.

\$20 suggested donation. St. Albert's Priory, 5890 Birch Court, Oakland. 510-596-1800

DANCE

ASHKENAZ — Edessa and Brass Menagerie, Dec. 2, 8:30 p.m. Balkan dance lesson at 7:30 p.m. \$10

Moodswing Orchestra, Dec. 5, 9:30 p.m. Swing dance lesson at 8 p.m. \$13

Flamenco Open Stage, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m. Featuring Yaelisa with Caminos Flamencos. With costume exhibit and sale. \$9

Courtableu, Dec. 9, 8:30 p.m. Cajun dance lesson, 8 p.m. \$9

NC Blues Connection, Dec. 10, 9 p.m. West Coast swing dance lesson, 8 p.m. \$9

Tom Rigney and Flambeau, Dec. 13, 9:30 p.m. Cajun dance lesson, 8:30 p.m. \$13

"Cafe Belle: Belly Dance Showcase," Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. \$9

1317 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley. 510-525-5055 or www.ashkenaz.com

BERKELEY CITY BALLET — "The Nutcracker," Dec. 5 through Dec. 7. A traditional version of Tchaikovsky's holiday fantasy, which begins at Clara's Victorian party and follows her on a dreamy, magical journey to the Land of the Sweets with the nutcracker her grandfather gives her.

"Sugar Plum Fairy Party," Dec. 6 and Dec. 7, following the matinee shows. A chance for children to meet the cast of the ballet. \$5

\$25 general; \$15 seniors and children age 12 and younger. Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday, 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. The Zellerbach Playhouse, UC Berkeley, Bancroft Avenue and Dana St., Berkeley. 510-642-9988 or www.berkeleycityballet.org

CAL PERFORMANCES — "The Hard Nut," Dec. 12 through Dec. 21. A combination of popular, modern and classical dance to imbue the original "Nutcracker and the Mouseking" story with new life. Performed by the Mark Morris Dance Group

\$32 to \$56. Thursday and Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. Zellerbach Hall, University of California, Bancroft Way and Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. 510-642-9988 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu

OAKLAND BALLET — "Holiday Magic," through Dec. 17. A series of performances of selected dances from the "Nutcracker." Sponsored by Mervyn's and YMCA of the East Bay.

The evening includes dinner and the hour-long performance. Dinner is at 6 p.m.; performance begins at 7 p.m. Dec. 5: Haight School Kids Care, 2025 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda. 510-522-6528

Dec. 17: Paramount Theater, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 510-451-9622. NO DINNER AT THIS LOCATION

\$5 general; \$2 youth ages 18 and under. www.ymcaeastbay.org

STARRY PLOUGH PUB — "Dance

Class & Celi," Mondays, 7 p.m. Traditional Irish music and dance

"The Starry Session," Sundays, 8 p.m. Irish traditional music and song led by Shay Black. Sliding scale

For age 21 and over. Dance lesson at 7 p.m.; music at 9 p.m. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082

EXHIBITS

ARTS AND CRAFTS CO-OPERATIVE (ACC) GALLERY — "Peace on Earth," through Dec. 31. An exhibit of works for the holidays by ACCI members, in various media including jewelry, ceramics, glass, wood, ornaments and fine art

Free. Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; through Dec. 21 Sunday noon to 5 p.m. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2527 or www.accigallery.com

ARDENCY GALLERY — Constance Terrell, open-ended. An exhibit of fabric arts by the artist.

Free. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 255 Fourth St., Oakland. 510-836-0831 or www.ardencyart.com

BERKELEY ART CENTER — "One Struggle, Two Communities: Late-20th-Century Political Posters of Havana, Cuba and the San Francisco Bay Area," closing Dec. 13. An exhibit of 60 Cuban posters from the Cuban Film Institute, OSPAAAL and Editora Politica with work by local artists Enrique Chagoya, Emory Douglas, Juan Fuentres, Rupert Garcia, Nancy Hom, Malaguas Montoya, Jane Norling and Jos Sances

Free. Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Live Oak Park, 1275 Walnut St., Berkeley. 510-644-6893 or www.berkeleyartcenter.org

CRAFTS AND CULTURAL ARTS GALLERY — "Wave," through Dec. 26. An exhibit of wall panels, sculptures, handmade paper and an installation by artist Kaiko Nelson

Reception, Dec. 18, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. With a Butch dance performance and a presentation by the artist.

Free. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 1515 Clay St., Oakland. 510-622-8190

EAST BAY WOMEN ARTISTS — Artists Exhibit, through Dec. 29. An exhibit of works by Benny Alba, Allison Asencio, Joyce Blegen, Lorraine M. Bruce, Joan Finton, Gwen Halpin, Mei-Yu Lo, Nancy Pollock, Lynda Robinson, Estera Roseman, Rita Sargent-Simon, Rita Sklar and Tracy West

At Lindsay Dirx Brown Art Gallery, San Ramon Community Center, 12501 Alcosta Blvd., San Ramon. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Reception, Dec. 7, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. "Savory Glimpses," through Jan. 4, 2004. An exhibit of paintings, prints, collage, wall sculpture and photography by artists Kay Athos, Joyce Blegen, Virginia Dorn, Joan Finton, Lynda H. Robinson, Rita Sargent-Simon, Rita Sklar and Shirley Warwick. Royal Ground Gallery, 2058 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. Daily, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Free. 510-339-0348

GALLERY 555 — "Stretch," through Dec. 31. An exhibit of oversized sculptures by Marta Thoma.

Free. Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. 555 City Center, 555 12th St., Oakland. 510-238-6836 or www.oaklandcitycenter.com

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION — EXHIBITS — "Requiem for an Executed Bird," through Feb. 15, 2004. An exhibit of works by Junko Chudoh "An Encounter with a New World," through Feb. 15, 2004. An exhibit of rare materials from the Academy of American Franciscan History. 510-649-2541.



Out of Africa

BERKELEY'S ASHKENAZ MUSIC and dance club on Saturday is hosting its fourth annual "Night in Africa" concert, which could also be titled "Come Hear the Truly Infectious Nigerian Baba Ken Okulolo Night." Okulolo (pictured) will appear with three of his bands: Kotoja, Highlife Band and the Nigerian Brothers. The concert also features a guest appearance by the Life Band of Tanzania. The concert begins 8 p.m. Saturday at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley. Tickets are \$16 advance/\$18 door. Contact 510-525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com

Free. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 7 p.m. Flora Lamson Hewlett Library, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley. 510-649-2500 or www.glu.edu

HALL OF PIONEERS GALLERY — "Oakland Chinatown Pioneers," ongoing. Twelve showcases each focusing on historic leaders and personalities of the community

Free. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Chinese Garden Building, 275 Seventh St., Oakland. 510-530-4590

KALA ART INSTITUTE — "Krishna's Cosmos," closing Dec. 6. A retrospective exhibit of works by sculptor and printmaker Krishna Reddy

Free. Tuesday through Friday, noon to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4:30 p.m. 1060 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. 510-549-2977 or www.kala.org

LA PENIA CULTURAL CENTER — "En La Orilla de la Luz — At the Edge of Light," through Jan. 6, 2004. An exhibit of photographs by Jutta Meier-Wiedenbach, depicting Chiapas, Mexico, shortly after the Chiapas uprising in 1994.

Free. Wednesday through Sunday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The Cafe, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568 or www.lapenia.org

OAKLAND BOX GALLERY — "OCHO," closing Dec. 7. A three-person mixed media show featuring works by Colleen Flaherty, Diana Sanchez, and Caleb Duarte

Free. Tuesday and Thursday, noon to 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and during evening events. Oakland Box Theater, 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-451-1932 or www.oaklandbox.com

RICHMOND ART CENTER — "Annual Holiday Arts Auction Preview," closing

Dec. 5. A preview exhibit of arts and crafts that will be auctioned at the annual festival and auction. Dec. 5, noon to 4:30 p.m.

"Annual Holiday Arts Festival and Art Auction," Dec. 7, noon to 5 p.m. The festival includes a silent auction, craft sale, hands-on art projects for children as well as a holiday cafe

Free. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4:30 p.m. 2540 Barrett Ave., Civic Center Plaza, Richmond. 510-620-6772 or www.therichmondartcenter.org

UC BERKELEY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM — "Our Daily Bread," through Jan. 20, 2004. An exhibit of photographs showing daily life in Israel by Micha Bar-Am

Free. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Center for Photography, 121 North Gate Hall, UC Berkeley Campus. Berkeley. 510-642-3363

OUTDOORS

BAY AREA RAIL TRAILS — A network of trails converted from unused railway corridors.

OHLOONE GREENWAY — A 3.75-mile paved trail converted from the Alchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway. Suitable for strollers and skaters. The trail runs under elevated BART tracks from Conlon and Key Streets in El Cerrito to Virginia and Acton Streets in Berkeley. 510-215-4382, 510-528-5759 or 510-644-6566

SHEPHERD CANYON TRAIL — A 3-mile paved trail converted from the Sacramento Northern Rail Line. The tree-

lined trail is gently sloping and is suitable for wheelchairs. Starts in Montclair and ends at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. The trail is 4.00 miles long and will form a loop with the San Francisco Bay Area Ridge Trail.

ALAMEDA COUNTY — "Wildcat Bike Rides" — Weekly BART Station and Wildcat Canyon Ridge Reservations required. One mile. Elevation gain 2,000 feet. Intermediate. Post-race party place. In front of the BART station. 510-649-6464

CRAB COVE VISITOR CENTER — CLOSED THROUGH FEB. 2004. DUNSMUIR HOUSE AND GARDENS — Historic estate — 50-acre house and gardens — the 37-room Neoclassical Dunsmuir Mansion built by lumber baron Alexander Dunsmuir. Restored oak

See EVENTS, Page 10

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Events

FROM PAGE C6

...and the magnificent dining room. Wear low-heeled, soft-soled shoes. No high heels allowed in the mansion. In addition, there will be open for strolling and there will be horse-drawn carriage rides. Live craft booths, children's activities and visits from Father Christmas. Holiday teas and luncheons will be available for an additional fee. Saturday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$11 to \$15 general; \$10 to \$14 seniors; \$7 to \$11 youths. 925-25490 or www.dunsmuir.org.

TEAS AND LUNCHEONS — "Theater's Tea: In the Dinkelspiel House." Saturday, 11:15 a.m. Reservations required. \$23 general; \$16 per child. 925-275-9490 or www.dunsmuir.org.

TEAS — In the Dinkelspiel House. Saturday, 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.; Sunday, 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Reservations required. \$23 general; \$16 per child. 925-275-9490 or www.dunsmuir.org.

TEAS — through December. The 50 acres of gardens and grounds at the mansion are open to the public. Free Self-Guided Grounds tour booklets are available at Dinkelspiel House. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free.

TEAS — The 95-acre grounds, including the historic 1880 Perilla Oaks Court, Oakland. 925-275-9490 or www.dunsmuir.org.

TEAS — The zoo includes a Petting Zoo, the Skyride, a nature train, a carousel, picnic grounds and a gift shop as well as the state-of-the-art exhibits, which are open to the public. Included in the "African Savanna" with its two mixed-animal aviaries and 11 African Savanna exhibits; the Mahali (Place of the Elephant) with lions, giraffes, chimpanzees and other animals from around the world; "Simba's Pride" for "Lion Country," a spacious habitat offering both a savanna and woodland setting for lions; "Footprints from the Past" an anthropology exhibit showing 1 million years of human evolution and an actual "footprint" of the hominid to emerge from the savanna; "Sun Bear Exhibit," a 10,000-sq-ft space the zoo has dedicated for its two sun bears; and "Island," a state-of-the-art, bar-

rier-free area that emulates the gibbons' native tropical rain forest habitat.

EXHIBIT — "Mountain Lions!" ongoing. An exhibit designed to educate people about the mountain lion, its habitat, physiology, history in California, and myths that surround these mammals. In addition there is a film titled "Cougar: Elusive Predator" by the Discovery Channel in the Children's Theater. At the Education Center. Open daily during Zoo hours. Free with regular Zoo admission.

SPECIAL EVENT — "ZooLights," through Jan. 3, 2004. The annual holiday light display. See the Oakland Zoo turned into an exotic winter wonderland after dark with 200,000 twinkling lights, offering the Bay Area's largest holiday lights display. Stroll or ride the train through this magical display. Weather permitting, nightly 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.; CLOSED DEC. 24, DEC. 25 AND DEC. 31. \$5 to \$6.50 general; \$4 to \$5 seniors and children age 2 to 14; free children under 2. \$7.50 general; \$4.50 seniors and children ages 2 to 14; free children under age 2; \$3 parking fee. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Knowland Park, 9777 Golf Links Road, exit off Interstate Highway 580, Oakland. 510-632-9525 or www.oaklandzoo.org.

USS POTOMAC — The 165-foot presidential yacht USS Potomac was called the "Floating White House" when it was refurbished at the beginning of World War II for use by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The yacht has been restored to its World War II splendor and visitors may see it docked at the foot of Clay Street. The USS Potomac offers both dockside tours of the ship and two-hour narrated history cruises on Saturdays in August and September.

DOCKSIDE TOURS — The tour takes about an hour and discusses how FDR used the ship. Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. \$5 general; \$3 seniors; free youths age 18 and under.

SPECIAL EVENT — The 2003 Annual OaklandAlameda Lighted Yacht Parade. Dec. 6, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The USS Potomac will lead the annual parade of festive lighted sailboats and powerboats up and down the Oakland estuary. The Potomac Association is planning a special three-hour evening cruise with hors d'oeuvres, wine, champagne and non-alcoholic beverages. Proceeds benefit the Potomac Association. Reservations required. \$75 per person. 510-627-1215.

USS POTOMAC: FDR Pier, Foot of Clay Street, northwest end of Jack London Square, Oakland. Potomac Visitor Center: 540 Water St., Oakland. 510-627-1502 or www.usspotomac.org.

REI BERKELEY — A series of lectures on hikes and outdoor equipment. "Snowshoeing Basics," Dec. 11. Cathy Anderson-Myers will introduce participants to the fast-growing sport, with fit and design discussions. Events are free and begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-527-4140.

ROBERTS REGIONAL RECREATION AREA — Within the park's 82 acres are a heated outdoor pool, bathhouse, playing fields, picnic areas and hiking and riding trails. Sea captains once took their bearings from a towering redwood tree on Blossom Rock here. Free. Skyline Boulevard, 12 mile north of Joaquin Miller Road, Oakland. 510-521-6897 or www.ebparks.org.

ROBERT SIBLEY VOLCANIC REGIONAL PRESERVE — East Bay res-

idents have several volcanoes in their backyard. This park contains Round Top, one of the highest peaks in the Oakland Hills.

TILDEN REGIONAL PARK — NATURE AREA — "Commemorative Decorations Workshop," Dec. 6 and Dec. 13, noon and 3:30 p.m. Remember Tilden benefactor Wayne Roderick, as you create wreaths, garlands, and seasonal decorations using natural materials. Not appropriate for children under age 8. Registration required. \$35 to \$39 general; \$30 to \$34 seniors and children age 13 to 17; \$55 to \$61 one adult and one child age 8 to 12. "Decorate the Lorax Way," Dec. 7, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Help conserve nature's tallest plants by reusing paper products to make wrapping paper and gift tags.

"Science Camp Out-Cuts," Dec. 7, 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Make Flipper Books, giant dragonflies, a marsh diorama and a snail puzzle from "Nature Science." \$5 to \$7.

"Astronomy of the Star of Bethlehem," Dec. 13, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. A slide show that looks at the special star and its stories.

"Festivals of Light," Dec. 14, 10 a.m. to noon. A celebration of the season with an exploration of festivals and their meanings. There will be marzipan buns, jelly donuts, cheese, saffron pigs, poems, costumes, riddles, games and songs. Registration required. 510-525-2233. \$5 to \$7.

"Amphibious Trading Cards," Dec. 14, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Learn about the double life of amphibians by making trading cards and exploring their habitats. Registration required. \$3.

"Season's Greenings," Dec. 14, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Holly, ivy, ferns and hawthorn will be featured on the walk. Learn the history and legends behind them.

REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN — Guided docent tours of the gardens. Call ahead for times and to confirm tour is on for the day. Most Saturdays and Sundays, 2 p.m.

Free unless noted otherwise. Take Canon Drive off Grizzly Peak Boulevard, Berkeley. 510-525-2233 or www.ebparks.org.

UC BERKELEY BOTANICAL GARDEN — ongoing. The gardens have displays of exotic and native plants.

TOURS — Botanical Garden Tours, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Meet at the Tour Orientation Center for a free docent tour.

SPECIAL EVENTS — "Holiday Plant Sale," Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Find plants for the holiday and learn to make wreaths and take home wreath-making greens. Hot cider will be available.

"Sick Plant Clinic," first Saturday of every month, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. UC plant pathology and entomology experts will diagnose what ails plants. Free.

\$3 general; \$2 seniors; \$1 children ages 3 to 18; free on Thursday. Through Memorial Day: daily, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed the first Tuesday of every month for maintenance. Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley. 510-643-2755 or <http://botanical-garden.berkeley.edu>.

MUSEUMS

AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM AND LIBRARY — "Walls of Heritage/Walls of Pride: African American Murals," through Dec. 31. An exhibit of historical and contemporary murals created by African American artists from

around the country. The exhibit features 52 photos of murals and 20 original works related to murals.

"The Long Walk to Freedom," through Dec. 31. An exhibit of photographs, archival material, videos and writings highlighting the contributions of 12 civil rights activists who changed the face of the nation.

"Creativity and Resistance: Maroon Cultures in the Americas," ongoing. An exhibit featuring historical drawings

and maps, a timeline, contemporary photographs and a selection of ceremonial and daily life objects.

"Golden Road to Freedom: The African Legacy in California, 1775-1900," ongoing. An exhibit focusing on the role that people of African descent played in later expeditions and settlements before the annexation of California.

Free. Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 5:30 p.m. 659 14th St., Oakland. 510-637-0200 or

www.oaklandlibrary.org
ALAMEDA MUSEUM — The museum offers permanent displays of Alameda history, the only rotating gallery showcasing local Alameda artists and student artwork, as well as souvenirs, books and videos about the city's rich history. Free. Wednesday through Friday, 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 2324 Alameda Ave., Alameda. 510-521-1233 or www.alamedamuseum.org.

Share
the Spirit

With Share the Spirit funds, the
BAY AREA RESCUE MISSION
provided over 9000 Thanksgiving dinners and
200 holiday food baskets to our neighbors in need.



SHARE THE SPIRIT, sponsored by the CONTRA COSTA TIMES and administered by THE VOLUNTEER CENTER OF CONTRA COSTA, is an annual fundraising campaign to help those in our community who need assistance.

EVERY CENT of your donation will be directed to one of 32 non-profit service agencies in our community. Last year, these agencies helped more than 40,000 hungry, sick and disadvantaged members of our county.

PLEASE join the Contra Costa Times and the Volunteer Center in supporting **SHARE THE SPIRIT: THE DEAN & MARGARET LESHER FOUNDATION** will match the first \$25,000 we raise and help us meet our goal of \$200,000.



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I prefer my contribution to designated to one of the following:

☐ Volunteer Center of Contra Costa ☐ Volunteer Center of Alameda

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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You ☐ may ☐ may not publish my name (name will be published in the Times if no box is checked).

Mail this form with your check or money order to:

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PO Box 8117, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-8117

For information, call 925-943-8105

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Legend: \$ rating is average dinner entrée price

AE American Express	\$	Entrees under \$7
CB	..... Carte Blanche	\$	\$7-\$14
DC	..... Diners Club	\$\$\$	\$15-\$20
DS	..... Discover Card	\$\$\$\$	\$20+
MC	..... MasterCard		
VS	..... Visa	FB	Full Bar
AC	All Cards accepted	RR	Reservations recommended
CA	..... Checks accepted	W	Wheelchair access

Pasta Pelican

2455 Mariner Square Drive, Alameda (510) 864-7427

For the past four years, pasta Pelican Restaurant has been delighting its guests with a variety of unique dishes. Their extensive menu offers veal, steak, seafood, chicken classic pastas, salads, sandwiches and appetizers. Guests are raving about this waterfront restaurant for their famous fresh baked bread, fried calamari, homemade clam chowder, variety of salads, appetizers, friendly service, and inviting atmosphere. All this for what is considered to be one of the best values in the Bay Area. Formerly The Rusty Pelican, the restaurant is located in Alameda, behind the Webster Tube with a spectacular view of Jack London Square and the Oakland Hills. You will truly enjoy this fine dining experience. Parking and docking are free. For reservations please call (510) 864-7427.

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

300 - 29th Avenue, Oakland (510) 261-1621

Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular earlybird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. The Pier is open 7 days a week. Mon. - Fri. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. Bar Hours: Mon. - Thu. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m., Fri. - Sat.

Speisekammer

2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda (510) 522-1300

Speisekammer presents Modern German Cuisine that is good for the body and soul. Sauerbraten, Wiener Schnitzel and a house recipe Bratwurst are standards. Light fare such as the Gemusstudel (Vegetable Studel with Goat Cheese, Roasted Red Pepper and Spinach. Served in a Carrot Sauce) give the menu a modern (or California) twist. There is a word in the German language that has no counterpart in English: Gemutlichkeit. It connotes a combination of comfort, friendship, and the general sentiment of being completely at ease with your surroundings. Speisekammer's atmosphere is Gemutlich. Large tables and a private room make it a great place for groups. The Beer is Strictly German. The Cocktails are Distinctly American, and the wine list has some of each. Lunch is served Tues-Fri - Grilled Pannini Sandwiches and Salads are offered along with some of the more popular entrée items. Sunday Brunch is to die for! 10am-2pm. Dinner is served Tues-Sun W. \$5-\$55. AC, FB, RR

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15 Entrees Available - Angus Prime Rib, New York Steak, Chicken, Fresh Petrale Sole, Snapper and Salmon, Fried Prawns, Fried Oysters, Daily Specials and More!

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of our
holiday
events &
activities



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Marine Corps
Reserve Toys
Tots Drive
December 19th
Donate a new,
unwrapped toy

2nd Annual
Salvation Army
Giving Tree
Program
Give new toys to
needy children

Alameda Youth
Concert
Saturday
December 13th,
1:00-3:00pm
• Bay Farm,
Franklin, Haight,
and Payden
Elementary Schools

Take Pictures
With Santa

- Friday,
December 5th
12noon-7pm
- Sat & Sun,
December 6th & 7th
12noon-6pm
- Daily,
December 12-23rd
12noon-7pm
- Christmas Eve,
December 24th
12noon-6pm



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...a space-available basis.
...to Ann Fields, 1969
...Div., Oakland, CA 94611;
...thead@ccittimes.com or fax
...4066

Children

...Lockhart warms a winter
... "Songs and Music
...Children and Families," at
...Dec. 13, at La Pena Cultural
...Shattuck, Berkeley. Chil-
...Adults \$4. Wheelchair accessi-
...information, call 510-849-

...Lawrence Hall of Sci-
...science exhibit "Jelly
...Candy Unwrapped," at
...4. UHS is the public sci-
...center of UC Berkeley
...to 5 p.m. daily. Location
...below Grizzly Peak
...or visit: www.lawrence-
...org

...Times with stories, bounces
...are coming back to the
...the new series on Mon-
...Dec. 15 at 3 p.m. The li-
...1247 Marin Ave. Call for sign-
...3720. Ext. 17.

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...are offered in Albany
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...Dec. 15 at 3 p.m. The li-
...1247 Marin Ave. Call for sign-
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...11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mon-
...Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30
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...from 22 months to 5 years
...designed to offer parents an op-
...leave their pre-school chil-
...ate atmosphere under quali-
...The program for ages
...to 3-1/2 years meets Mon-
...day from 9 a.m. to noon. Reg-
...continuous as long as space
...is located at 7007 Moeser
...4371

...Martin Children's Center of
..."Support Groups For Moth-
...ers for first time mothers and

babies their babies under 5 months. Ex-
perienced facilitator. Details: 524-
0821. Classes

Community

■ The historic Berkeley City Club will be
adorned with holiday decorations for its
"First Annual High Tea" from noon to
2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13. The Ex-
ecutive Chef will prepare an abundant
assortment of sweets and savories.
Open to the public, \$24.95 adults,
\$14.95 children under 12. Call for reser-
vations and information, 510-848-7800.

■ Acupuncture and Integrative Medi-
cine College Berkeley will hold an
open house at 10 a.m. Dec. 6. Check-in
begins at 9:45 a.m. Prospective stu-
dents and members of the community
will be able to learn about the Masters
of Science in Oriental Medicine pro-
gram. Guests will tour the classrooms,
clinic, and herb dispensary, view an
acupuncture demonstration by Patricia
Keenan, O.M.D., L.A.C., and enjoy a
complimentary lunch (RSVP). Lunch is
from 12-1 p.m. To RSVP, contact Taj
Moore at 510-666-8248, or email
rsvp@aic-berkeley.edu.

■ The El Cerrito Historical Society
will exhibit items from its collections in
the El Cerrito Library's exhibit case
through the month of December. Items
include pottery from TepCo, as well as
old milk bottles from the city's early
dairies. Location: 6510 Stockton Ave.
For more information, call branch librar-
ian Laura Martinengo El Cerrito Library
at 510-526-7512 or lmartine@cccblib.org

■ The Berkeley Farmers' Market 12th
annual Holiday Crafts Fair (An Ecology
Center Benefit), takes place 10 a.m. to 4
p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 6, 13, and 20 at
Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center Park
(next to the Berkeley Farmers' Market).
Local craftspeople selling a variety of
hand-crafted gifts jewelry, fabric arts,
leather, ceramics, hats, dolls, fine art,
photos, soaps and herbal portions, and
others. Live music. One block from
downtown Berkeley BART parking,
wheelchair accessible. For more infor-
mation, call 510-548-3333 or visit the
Web site at www.ecologycenter.org

■ The Cal Sailing Club offers free sail-
boat rides on the Bay, from 1 p.m. to 4
p.m. Sunday Dec. 14, at the Cal Sailing
Club, located at the Berkeley Marina,
near the bottom of University Avenue
next to Adventure Playground. Bring
warm, waterproof clothes — you may
get wet. For more information, call the
club at 510-287-5905, or visit the Web
site at www.cal-sailing.org.

■ The Judah L. Magnes Museum,
2911 Russell St., presents the exhibit
"Brought to Light: The Storied Collec-
tions of the Judah L. Magnes Museum"
through April 25. Hours: Open Sunday

through Thursday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed Jewish and federal holidays. Ad-
mission is free. For more information,
call 510-549-6950

■ Berkeley Neighborhood Comput-
ers, a non-profit organization, provides
high-value and high-demand computer
technology training for disadvantaged
and at-risk individuals. The organization
seeks computers and networking equip-
ment to be used for training purposes. All
donations are tax deductible. 845-1226
or e-mail bnc@netvalue.net.

■ Berkeley Camera Club meet Tues-
days at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae
Community Church, 941 The Alameda,
Berkeley. Share slides and prints, learn
what other photographers are doing.
Monthly field trips. Details: 525-3565

■ TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensibly)
Chapter CA 1294 meets Thursdays,
7:15-8:30 p.m. Thursday at Mira Vista
UCC Church, 7075 Cutting Blvd. TOPS
is a non-profit organization assisting
men and women in weight control.
Betty Coates at 235-0490.

■ Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600
Bancroft Way, sponsors Resume Clinic
on Tuesday afternoons, or by appoint-
ment. For an appointment, leave a mes-
sage several days before you would like
to meet. Anne Levine has a background
in design and education. Call 848-6370

■ Berkeley's Office of Emergency
Services presents a new series of free
Community Emergency Response Train-
ing classes. The classes give basic,
practical information, including hands-
on training in fire suppression, light
search and rescue, and disaster first
aid. All classes are held at the fire de-
partment's Emergency Operations Cen-
ter, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open
to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or
works in Berkeley. Register: 644-8736

■ Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film
Archive offers a guided tour of Equal
Partner: Men and Women Principals in
Contemporary Architectural Practice
presented by graduate students from
the UC Berkeley Department of Archi-
tecture, College of Environmental De-
sign on alternating Thursdays at 12:15

p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. 642-
0808

■ Overeaters Anonymous meet Fri-
days at 1:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Com-
munity Church in Berkeley, 941 The
Alameda between Solano and Marin av-
enues, in Room 2 — the child-care
room — parents may bring their children.
This organization is for individuals who
eat compulsively. 525-5231

■ Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up
and say what you mean. Come prac-
tice. Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700
Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for details

■ Civil Rights activists needed. Write
the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany,
Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box
11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701

■ "Work Buddies": volunteers needed
to work with people in early stage
Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-
month commitment, two to three hours
per week. Training provided. Contact
Nannette Lipton, 644-8292

■ The El Cerrito Art Association
meets at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8, at the El Cer-
rito Community Center Garden Room,
Mooser Lane at Ashbury Avenue. The
evening will be a holiday social with re-
freshments. Officers to be installed are:
President: Sylvia Falcon, Vice President
Michaela Daystar, Secretary Reyel
Daystar, Treasurer Eileen Hammons
Parliamentarian, Barbara Brendlinger
and directors, Christine Mulder and Ny-
lan Jeung. For more information, call
510-235-2232 or e-mail sylfalcon1@ya-
hoo.com.

■ The Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Wal-
nut St., presents an exhibit of 60
postrevolutionary Cuban posters from
the Cuban Film Institute, OSPAAAL, and
Editora Politica with examples of work
by Bay Area artists. Gallery hours: noon
to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday.
Free admission, donations accepted.
For a complete listing of other events at
the Center, call 510-644-6893 or visit the
Web site at www.berkeleyartcenter.org

■ The exhibit Early Women of Berke-

ley (1878-1953) and their organizations
runs through March 27. The exhibit, cu-
rated by the College Women's
Club/Berkeley Branch of the American
Association of University Women and
the Berkeley Historical Society, cele-
brates how women shaped Berkeley's
history, working alone and through their
clubs. A women's history lecture series
is also planned. At the Berkeley History
Center, 1931 Center St. Details: 848-
0181. Admission free

Film/dance/stage

■ Copwatch presents the debut film
screening of "The Streets Are Watch-
ing" at 8 p.m. Dec. 5, at the Trans-
parent Theater, 1901 Ashby Ave. Berkeley.
The film looks at police accountability
through the eyes of three communities,
Denver, Cincinnati and Berkeley.
The event, open to the public, is a benefit
for Berkeley Copwatch. Cost: \$5-20 slid-
ing scale (no one turned away for lack
of funds). 510-548-0425

■ Berkeley Ballet Theater presents the
"Nutcracker," at the Julia Morgan Cen-
ter for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., in
Berkeley. The Sugar Plum Party takes
place on Dec. 6 following the 2 p.m.
matinee. Sugar Plum tickets are priced
at \$5. Performance times are: 7 p.m.
Dec. 5; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 6, 2
p.m. Dec. 7, 7 p.m. Dec. 12, 2 p.m. and
7 p.m. Dec. 13, 2 p.m. Dec. 14. Admis-
sion: \$13-\$18. For tickets or more in-
formation, call 510-843-4689

■ Aurora Theatre Company presents
the play "Lobby Hero" through Dec. 21.
An amusingly hapless security guard,
his straight-faced boss, a feisty rookie
female cop, and her swaggering vet-
eran partner intertwine their lives. Show-
times: 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Sat-
urdays; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays;
additional show at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov

25. No show Thursday, Nov. 27. Admis-
sion: previews \$28. Opening nights \$40;
Regular performances Wednesdays,
Thursdays \$34; Fridays and
Saturdays \$36. For tickets, call 510-843-
4822; or visit www.auroratheatre.org for
more information

■ Learn easy International folk
dances, fun for all ages at the Albany
YMCA, 921 Kains Ave. No experience
needed. Wear comfortable shoes and
come prepared for a good time. Admis-
sion: Adults \$2, kids \$1. Details: 525-
1130

■ Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. -
11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line
dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria,
Israel, Turkey, Near East and other
lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.,
followed by request dances from 9 p.m.
to 11 p.m. No experience necessary -
all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901
Kains Ave., \$4, call 525-1542

■ Family Folkdancing takes place the
third Sunday, 1-2:30 p.m. at Ashkenaz
Music and Dance Community Center,
1317 San Pablo Ave. Instructor Denise
Schultz Weiss. Bring your feet and a
spirit of fun. No experience necessary.
An opportunity for families to dance and
laugh together. Drop in for good fun
and exercise. All ages welcome. Drop-in
class, no registration needed. Adults \$3,
children \$2. Details: 632-3713

■ Swing Dance Classes! Learn East
coast swing and Lindy Hop with
Michael and Persephone of Shagtime
Dance Instruction, on Mondays at the
Work Studio, 2566 Telegraph Ave. Be-
ginning Lindy Hop runs 8:30 p.m. to
9:30 p.m. East Coast Swing from 7 p.m.
to 8 p.m. and beginning Lindy Hop 8
p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays, at The
Beat, 2560 Ninth St. Classes run as a
monthly series. Details: Michael Maran-
go at 528-7858

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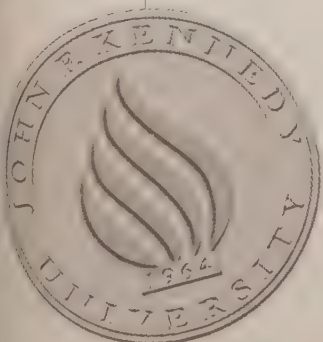
No springtime in Orinda, just new growth in Pleasant Hill.

John F. Kennedy University is moving its main campus to 100 Ellinwood Way in Pleasant Hill. Classes start at our new location January 2004. There's still time to enroll for the Winter Quarter.

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ST SELLERS

Discover Fiction

Da Vinci Code, Dan Brown, \$19.95. An exhilarating blend of mystery, thriller, and religious history, this best-selling novel is a page-turner that explores the unexplored corners of the Vatican and the life of Leonardo da Vinci. **5.** **Bushwhacked**, Molly Ivins & Lou Dubose, \$24.95. With the unprecedented challenges to civil liberties presented by the war on terrorism, the failure of the Bush economic policy, and the largely unnoticed crumbling of the quality of American life, the time is ripe for Ivins' no-holds-barred look at the first years of the George W. Bush presidency.

9. **Vernon God Little**, DBC Pierre, \$23. In the town jail of Martiro, Texas — under the terrifying care of the dynamic Gurie family, and wearing only his New Jack trainers and underpants — 15-year-old Vernon Little is in trouble. His friend, the mysterious Jesus, has just blown away 16 of his classmates before turning the gun on himself.

10. **Quicksilver**, Neal Stephenson, \$27.95. In this wonderfully inventive follow-up to his bestseller "Cryptonomicon," Stephenson brings to life a cast of unforgettable characters in a time of breathtaking genius and discovery, men and women whose exploits defined an age known as the Baroque.

Hardcover nonfiction

1. **Lies & the Lying Liars Who Tell Them**, Al Franken, \$24.95. Once again, the author of "Rush Limbaugh Is a Big Fat Idiot and Other Observations" trains his subversive wit directly on the contemporary political scene, leaving the powers-that-be in tatters and his audience in hysterics.

2. **Dude, Where's My Country?** Michael Moore, \$24.95. Fresh on the heels of his runaway "New York Times" best-selling "Stupid White Men," Moore returns with a bold but hilarious act of sedition as he seeks to overthrow the "Thief in Chief" and effect the kind of grass roots change that will shake the country.

3. **Sailing the Wine-Dark Sea**, Thomas Cahill, \$27.50. In the fourth volume of the acclaimed Hinges of History series, the author of "How the Irish Saved Civilization" brings his characteristic wit and style to a fascinating tour of ancient Greece.

4. **The South Beach Diet**, Arthur Agatston, M.D., \$24.95. Dr. Agatston has developed an all-science, deliciously heart-healthy program that offers immediate results, helping dieters shed 20, 30 pounds while radically changing their blood chemistry, reversing diabetes, and lowering high cholesterol.

5. **My Bed Wolf**, James Patterson, \$22.95. Number 1 best-selling author James Patterson's infamous "Patterson" makes his debut with the action-packed rollercoaster "My Bed Wolf."

6. **Wolf**, James Patterson, \$22.95. Number 1 best-selling author James Patterson's infamous "Patterson" makes his debut with the action-packed rollercoaster "Wolf."

7. **Wolf**, James Patterson, \$22.95. Number 1 best-selling author James Patterson's infamous "Patterson" makes his debut with the action-packed rollercoaster "Wolf."

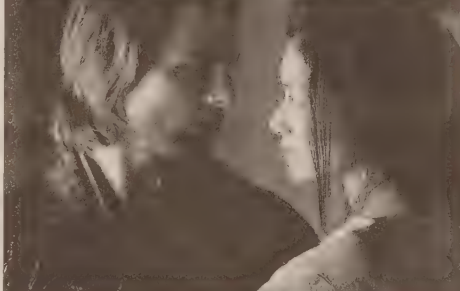
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War image clashes with 'Samurai'

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER



AS CAPT. NATHAN ALGREN, an American war hero recruited by the Japanese army, Tom Cruise finds himself swept up in the culture of an erstwhile enemy. Koyuki co-stars as Taka, Algren's love interest.

REVIEW

- **WHAT:** "The Last Samurai"
- **STARRING:** Tom Cruise, Ken Watanabe, Timothy Spall, Billy Connolly, Tony Goldwyn, Hiroyuki Sanada, Koyuki
- **RATING:** R (strong violence and battle sequences)
- **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours, 24 minutes
- **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
- **GRADE:** B-

It seems as though we ought to be at the point where a filmmaker who wants to make a movie about the samurai could do it without including the American point of view, but clearly, we're not.

Nor is Algren a particularly interesting character — Cruise's depiction of Vietnam vet Ron Kovic in "Born on the Fourth of July" is a much better version of the cliché of the emotionally ravaged veteran — but he's our guide through the samurai lifestyle and unfortunately, we're stuck with him.

Cruise is obviously sincere about what he does and has displayed undeniable acting chops, especially when he veers off the traditional movie-star track the way he did in "Magnolia." But he's become such an icon that when we see him in hero mode, as we do here, it's hard not to rifle through all the other images you have in your head of cinema Cruise: on the motorcycle in "Mission: Impossible," shouting in "A Few Good Men," standing at attention in "Top Gun."

When Cruise's character, who ends up living with the samurai in the mountains of Japan, finally puts on a kimono, and the actor dances around in the garment trying it on for size, the image that comes to mind is that stocky young boy in "Risky Business,"

boogying around in his undies and socks. It's not entirely his fault, but it's still a distraction, and a detriment to the movie as a whole.

It's also in vivid contrast to the way we feel about Ken Watanabe's performance as Katsumoto. Based loosely on the real story of Saigo Takamori, Katsumoto is a fictional character, but Watanabe, a Japanese film and television star, makes us believe in him. He has a smooth and beautiful face, a melodious way of speaking, a noble grace and innate authority. The script asks us to believe that Algren is captivated by Katsumoto, that he comes to respect him not just as a fellow warrior, but as a real leader. In junior high terms, he kinda has a crush on Katsumoto, and we can't blame him because we do, too. If Watanabe gets a best supporting actor nomination for this role, you won't hear complaining from these quarters.

Zwick has accomplished much with "The Last Samurai." Every detail feels meticulously right, the fighting scenes are vivid and true, particularly an adrenaline-boasting ninja-style attack about halfway through the movie. And the director handles the obligatory romance between Algren and Katsumoto's lovely sister Taka (actress/model Koyuki) with respectful subtlety (although when Algren catches her bathing, you'll want to groan).

But the film is overly long, and if Zwick had been less self-indulgent, and less intent in giving Cruise his movie-star moments, he could have ended it about 10 minutes earlier, after a spectacular and truly moving battle scene. But then Cruise wouldn't have had that one last chance to show off his talent for flashy intensity, reminding us that he is the star of "The Last Samurai."

Gospel

FROM PAGE C12

Like many of the other singers, Enright, who is white, was first introduced to the non-profit choir's work when she saw them perform.

The Brisbane resident, who once sang with rock and country bands, said she was "blown away" by the choir's performance, and decided to audition.

Choir members come from all over, she said. Some members live as far as Santa Rosa, Suisun City, Livermore and Danville. Their professions vary from nurses and lawyers to sheriff's captains. As a group they have performed in various places including jails and nursing homes, Enright said.

LaDonna Harris, who joined the choir eight years ago, said that, though the Christmas shows are exciting, she also enjoys singing in prisons.

"I look forward to doing charitable outreach ministry to people that need it the most," said Harris, who is black and a captain with the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

Jonathan Goldstein, who is a San Francisco resident and a technology entrepreneur, joined the choir three years ago. Goldstein, who is Jewish, said he wanted to sing with the choir since he first heard it eight years ago.

Like others who are drawn to black gospel singing, he said he was moved by the choir's performance, as well as the songs they performed.

"There was something about the harmony ... To me, (gospel singing) creates a physical response," Goldstein said. "It's emotive."

Manuel Mendoza of El Cer-



LEOLA CLARK, a soprano with the Oakland Interfaith Gospel choir, rehearses for the group's upcoming Christmas concert.

rito agrees with Goldstein. A new member of the choir, Mendoza said he had been preparing to audition for the choir for years, first singing with the East Bay Church Christian Choir.

Mendoza, who is Mexican, said black gospel singing is unique among other types of religious singing. Black gospel has a rich history that goes back to when blacks were slaves in the

United States, he said. "For me personally, it touches my heart," said Mendoza, who is an esthetician. "Black gospel singing is very sublime. It's an expression that projects a message of peace, salvation and joy. It really lights up my spirit."

Reach Ana Facio Contreras at 510-339-4506 or acontreras@cc-times.com

Ballet

FROM PAGE C12

"I didn't do Nutcracker in Europe," said Godfrey, who trained in Belgium, where she grew up.

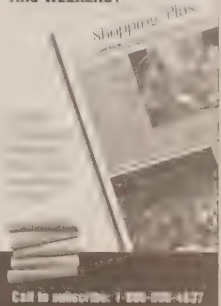
"Dancing in the 'Nutcracker' is a real growing experience," she said. "As they learn, the stu-

dents move up and dance in more difficult roles. They go from being mice to dancing as boys and girls in the party scene and eventually, on to solo roles, as Clara and Fritz."

Reach Cindee de la Vara at 510-339-4517 or cdelavara@cc-times.com

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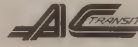
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Arts & Leisure

Friday, December 5, 2003



BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

NPR leaps past Clear Channel mire

A DECADE AGO, NPR was an afterthought as it punched around the radio dial. But that was before radio's FCC-supported consolidation, sometimes known as the Clear Channel-ization (or homogenization) of radio. It was before so much of commercial radio became virtually unlistenable, and even just plain vile.

Owning just one station in a market became accepted in the radio industry as commercially unviable. And in fact, just one major "stand-alone" station remains in this market — Berkeley's KBLX, which is owned by the same businessman, Percy Sutton, who owns the Apollo Theatre.

But times have obviously changed and the worm is turning, so to speak, on the weasels who control so much of radio. (Trust me on this: I've attended their national conventions. You would not want your children around some of the people who program radio stations today.)

Many listeners are so disgusted with commercial radio's pandering, its repetitive music playlists and the increasingly limited choices it offers that they're paying to install satellite radio in their cars — just as fed-up consumers once paid for cable TV because of the limited viewing choices available on broadcast TV.

National Public Radio has been the biggest beneficiary of all this — especially here in the Bay Area. In fact, as we've mentioned, more people now tune in KQED-FM (at 88.5) in San Francisco than any other NPR station — even more than listen in New York or Los Angeles. Plus, KQED recently won radio's most coveted demographic — listeners ages 25-54. It was a shocker to long-complacent commercial radio.

So NPR was doing quite well, thank you, even before it received that surprise \$200 million windfall recently from the estate of McDonald's heiress/ NPR fan Joan Kroc. A recent column in the National Journal, which KQED programming chief JoAnne Wallace forwarded to her staff, notes that NPR's audience has doubled in the last decade. Some 27 million people now listen to public radio at least once a week, according to the Radio Research Consortium. By comparison, NBC-TV's megahit "Friends" reaches 20 million people.

NPR recently did a piece on the huge, unexpected Kroc bequest, revealing that Kroc was a loyal fan of the NPR affiliate near her home in San Diego, and that she was so impressed by NPR's balanced coverage of the war in Iraq last spring that she then decided to give NPR that big chunk of change — an amount equal to NPR's entire annual budget. The "Marketplace" report added that such a windfall could be a "double-edged sword" — that it might make some NPR contributors hesitate to send money now.

The story emphasized that the public network would carefully invest and allocate the Kroc money, which it will get early next year, so that it would have years to use it — and also to explore how best to expand its coverage. So, despite Kroc's gift, we all need to keep supporting NPR, a reasonable, balanced and intelligent alternative to the left-wing (KPFA) and right-wing sources (e.g., KSFO, KNEW) some unwisely use to get their "news."

As far as getting news from music stations, good luck: Many have dumped or cut back their news departments. That way, they can play more of those fabulous songs each hour!

SAY WHAT? Speaking of radio, I'm not sure how an operation as well-run as perennial top-rated KGO (810 AM) let this one get by: "Today's 49er Coach's Corner," went the introduction to one segment on the big newstalk station recently, "is brought to you by the California Highway Patrol and the San Francisco Ballet."

Questions? Comments? E-mail Bill: Newsman@sonic.net.



THE OAKLAND INTERFAITH GOSPEL CHOIR rehearses the song "Come Back Home" for the 18th annual Christmas concert.

Gospel choir goes Jamaican

■ New piece to enliven multicultural group's annual Christmas set

By Ana Facio Contreras
STAFF WRITER

The harmonious voices of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir will once again fill the Paramount Theater with song and spirit at their 18th annual Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

This year, the choir — known for the racial, cultural and religious diversity of its members — will perform old holiday favorites, as well as a new piece especially arranged by Bay Area composer Jacqueline Hairston. The Jamaican-inspired piece is titled "Come Back Home."

Aside from Hairston's new piece, the choir will perform contemporary and traditional gospel music, spirituals and artistic choir director Terrance Kelly's unique gospel arrangements of traditional Christmas songs.

The songs include "We Three Kings," "Silent Night," "Jesus O What a Wonderful Child," "O Holy Night," and "Joy to the World."

"Each year there is something new in the show," Kelly said, pointing to the soulful Jamaican piece the choir will perform Saturday. "You can't do the same concert every year."

Under Kelly, the choir has earned Gospel Academy Awards for best director and best com-

CONCERT

WHAT: Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir 18th annual Christmas concert

WHEN: Saturday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Paramount Theater, 2025 Broadway.

QUESTIONS: Tickets are \$10 to \$35 and are available in advance from the theater's box office at 510-465-6400 or Ticketmaster (www.ticketmaster.com), Tower Records, Rite Aid and select Rite Aid stores. For details, visit the choir's Web site at www.oigc.org or 510-839-4361.

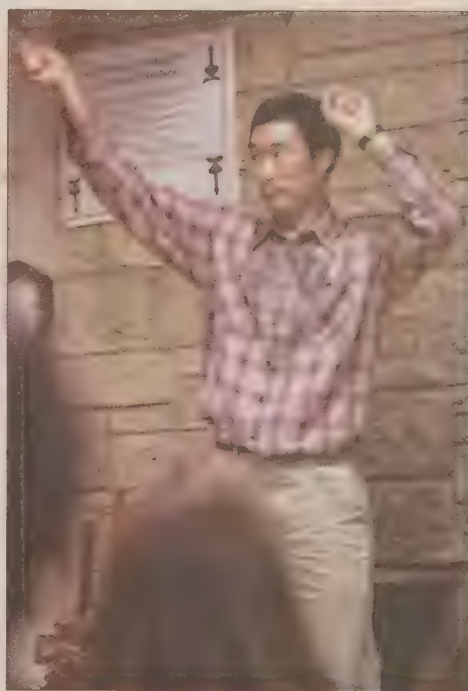
munity choir. Also under his leadership, the choir has performed with singers such as Lyle Lovett and Carlos Santana.

Kelly, who comes from a family of musicians and singers, founded the choir at the age of 23, when he was approached by several people who wanted to form a choir of singers of different races to sing black gospel.

"In 1986, I started with 23 members. It's been 18 years now and we have 55 members," said Kelly during a choir rehearsal at the Imani Community Church in Oakland where he is "minister of magnification."

Kathleen Enright, who joined the choir 12 years ago, is the choir's program director.

See GOSPEL, Page C11



PAUL KIM, assistant director of the choir, leads the group during rehearsal. Above, Helen Gray sings during the ad-lib portion of "There's Something About That Name."

Berkeley City Ballet's timeless treat

By Cindee de la Vara
STAFF WRITER

The "Nutcracker" is such a holiday tradition it's difficult to imagine December without seeing a performance of Tchaikovsky's masterpiece. Berkeley City Ballet is presenting the musical for the 30th year.

"It's exciting to continue the tradition," said Berkeley City Ballet artistic director Elizabeth Godfrey. "It's a warm, positive event that's challenging and very magical."

Performing in the "Nutcracker" is an annual event for several Piedmont residents. Piedmont Middle School seventh-graders Madeline Lammers, who dances as Clara, and Beatrice Phillips, dancing as a flirtatious maid, will be on stage with the Berkeley City Ballet this weekend at Zellerbach Hall on the UC Berkeley campus.

"I dance a lot during the first half," said Madeline, who auditioned with 20 other dancers for the solo part of Clara. "During the second half, I sit on the throne and watch other dancers perform in my dream."

The 100 students at Berkeley Ballet may decline performing in the "Nutcracker," but nearly half of them participate.

"I'm excited because it feels good to perform," said Berkeley resident Dodie Hao, who is a third grader at Jefferson Elemen-

BALLET

WHAT: 30th annual production of "Nutcracker"

WHO: Berkeley City Ballet

WHEN: Tonight at 7; Saturday, Dec. 6, at 1 and 5 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 7, at 1 and 5 p.m.

WHERE: Zellerbach Playhouse, UC Berkeley campus

TICKETS: Adults \$25, children under 12 and seniors \$15

INFORMATION: 510-642-9988 or www.berkeleycityballet.org

tary School and plays the part of a Ginger-snap. "This is my first year in 'Nutcracker,'" Berkeley City Ballet performs the classic "Nutcracker," written by German composer E.T.A. Hoffmann in 1816, in traditional story-line.

"Many dance companies perform contemporary, non-traditional versions of 'Nutcracker,'" said Godfrey, director of the dance studio since 2000. "I believe that we're the only one in the Berkeley area that presents the traditional version."

The "Nutcracker" is an American tradition, said Godfrey.

See 'NUTCRACKER,' Page C11



JODIE THOMAS of the Pacific Northwest Ballet performs as the Sugar Plum Fairy in Berkeley City Ballet's "Nutcracker."

Bizarre 'Endgame' engages the

"ENDGAME" Beckert's masterpiece after "Waiting for Godot" (1953), receives interpretation by a new and Gemma Whelan in a Wild production playing at the City Club through Dec. 12.

The title of the play, a term used to designate the third and final phase of a match. In this production, it brings forth the end to more than one twisted lives, a man race. The hope is offset by a steady stream of lesque and farce.

Such a catastrophe is hard to describe, let alone stage. So the play is to the style that defies. He forgoes many of the traditional elements of drama, contrives a curiously place setting and dialogue — seemingly at times — to engage the audience.

And it is in the end that "Endgame" (as in "Godot") embeds its theme — the content's existence as empty, as imminent.

Two of the "Endgame" actors, Nell (Brenda) and Nagg (Martin) live in metal trash can covers of which they live time to time to speak.

Most of the dialogue between their son, Hamm (Hamm), blind, paraplegic, confined to a wheelchair, his male attendant, Clov (Nye), who walks with a cane.

Clov is obsessed with his slave-like existence the same time, he is the thought of being the of being the last man.

In this respect, there sort of symmetry of the between "Endgame" and "Godot." As Beckert (1989) once said when summarize his new play, audience would be the departure of Clov in the preceding play would be expecting the of Godot.

"Endgame" is a play — demanding of who speak its words by long pauses that rests in a musical (to which in some way play can be compared).

It is demanding of — to absorb the work would notes of music themselves, are developed meaning.

Beckett may not be everyone. For others, "Endgame" can be an interesting theatrical experience each spectator will personally and take to examine in language contemplation.

Plays at 8 p.m. through Saturdays 11 days. One additional performance on Monday, Dec. 8, 8 p.m. Closes Dec. 21. Tickets \$10-\$20. Call 510-642-9988.

A BERKELEY HISTORY

"You Can't Take It with You" by Moss Hart and George Kaufman opens tonight at Allston Way Theatre, 1000 Milvia Street.

What happens when a wacky family's daughter is to date the son of a future businessman and families meet? A family the entire family about dependence and autonomy.

The classic comedy by Rachel Rudy and director Simon Trause first student-directed, produced and acted by Berkeley High School.

Plays at 8 p.m. on Saturdays this season next. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for others.

Reach Jack Truitt at County Times, 4100 Drive, Richmond, or mail to Jack Truitt, fax to 510-262-2622, fax to 510-262-2622, fax to 510-262-2622. Inquire name and number.

Friday Auto Plus

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Friday, December 5, 2003

Section D

Technology lets
super cars be
fast and green

BY TERRY BOX

ALAS — This is supposed to be the quiet time of the auto industry's year, a quiet time of whispery and oh-so-correct alternatives to the high technology that is keeping emissions in check is rising in a thunderous new pavement-pounding horse-drawn muscle car. Nothing in the storied muscle car line — not the legendary Shelby Cobra, the mighty Ford Mustang, or the ferocious big-block Chevrolet — even approaches the sleek, aerodynamic lines of today's super cars.

In the last few years, cars at the top of the automobile world have broken through the once-mythical horsepower barrier, then they may be headed now for the strongest muscle cars in the world, with about 425 horsepower, and ratings were usually in-

the new Bugatti Veyron, a French year from Italy, the \$1.1 million 16-cylinder exotic is expected to have 1,001 horsepower, more than most race cars and planes.

The heavy doses of horsepower are trickling down. The available this year has 197 horsepower — nearly twice the average — and is 29 percent lighter, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Industry as a whole has realized how cool high-performance cars are, says Herb Helbig, manager at DaimlerChrysler's performance vehicle

POWER, Page D2



MERCURY has designed a minivan in the 2004 Monterey with lots of the newest safety features plus technology to make parking the seven-passenger vehicle easier

2004 Mercury Monterey features design and comfort

MOTOR MATTERS

Mercury just introduced a minivan that has a lot of appeal both inside and out. The upscale design should attract buyers who want to ride in comfort.

Styling was the first thing to get my attention. It has smart lines and doors that open wide.

The side doors open and close at the touch of a button on the key fob or a switch near the driver's seat, or the door handles itself.

Entry to the rear seat is very easy as getting the center seats down requires only a light touch to

fold them forward.

Cargo hauling is not a concern because the rear seats fold down flat into the floor and the rear hatch opens with ease. I was impressed by the simplicity in transforming the vehicle from one chore to another.

With the rear seat up, it carries seven passengers, each having plenty of leg room.

When taking a long trip, there is the additional comfort of a DVD to watch.

The long-wheelbase of this minivan makes the ride smooth, yet it is capable of making a U-turn in

TOM KEANE

Keane on Wheels

less than 40 feet. That means parking this roomy vehicle can be done with ease.

The power controlled driver's seat is simple to adjust and I found road visibility very good because I was viewing the road from a somewhat higher angle, similar to the height of a sport utility vehicle. Yet I never felt I had to climb up into

the seat; entry is very easy.

The front seats are covered with leather and have a tiny thermoelectric device mounted in the seat frame. This allows the seat to be heated or cooled depending upon the time of year.

There aren't any moving parts, but the surface temperature is changed by an electric current or a fan inside the seat that blows air through the perforated leather.

It also has front and rear parking assist, which was helpful at times and annoying at others. In slow-moving tight traffic, either the

front or rear alarm "ding-ding-ding" would sound when I got too close to the car ahead or vice versa.

However, in tight parking, it was nice to have had an extra eye guiding me.

The Monterey has numerous safety features including a side curtain airbag system with rollover sensors. I'm told there are more than 30 safety and security features, including an occupant-sensing passenger airbag plus a belt warning alarm.

See KEANE, Page D2

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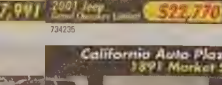
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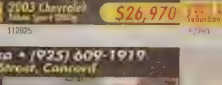
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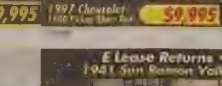
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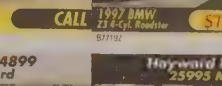
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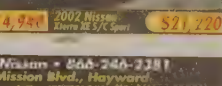
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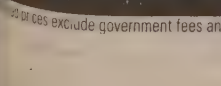
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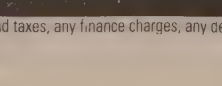
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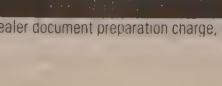
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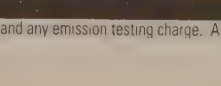
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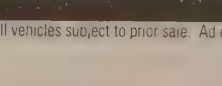
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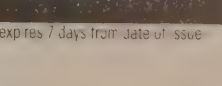
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1977 Buick Regal SS becoming family heirloom

MOTOR MATTERS

When Hale Burge first saw the new Buick Regal coupes in 1977 he was reminded of some pre-war Buick coupes he had seen. "I like that long hood," he says.

He and his wife, Grace, went to visit the Jack Brown Buick dealership at 209th Street and Southwestern Avenue in Chicago.

Burge was happy with the Regal models on the lot, but his wife didn't see any bright red ones, a color she preferred.

"So this car was special-ordered for us with 40/60 split front seats with a center armrest, vinyl upholstery, AM radio, heater, air conditioner and power disc brakes on the front wheels," he says.

After leaving a \$1,000 deposit, the couple returned to their downstate home in Hoopston in east central Illinois to await the arrival of their Buick. Five weeks later, in April, word came that their 3,612-pound red Regal coupe was ready.

Up to Chicago they went. "It was exactly what we wanted," Burge says.

The base price of \$4,713 was pushed up to \$5,453 by the optional extras. The county got \$15, the state took \$272.62 and after a \$31 license fee was tacked on, he paid \$5,771.65.

Burge drove the Buick home on its 112-inch wheelbase but soon afterward his wife laid claim to it for use on daily errands. "We're the only two who ever drove this car," he says.

VERN PARKER
Classic Classics

"The interior is as totally red as the exterior.

"We wanted a simple car," he remarks. "I do my own repairs and I have kept this car up with routine maintenance."

The closest the car came to letting him down was once when the right rear tire went down. "I picked up a nail," Burge says, giving his trusty car an alibi.

He has been pleased with the performance of the 231-cubic-inch V6 engine that develops 105 horsepower. To keep it purring he changes the oil every 2,500 to 3,000 miles.

The timing chain was replaced at 100,000 miles and the starter and alternator have both been rebuilt. The brake pads have also been replaced, but when the originals were removed he measured them and found they were only half worn out.

He saved them for eventual reuse. The left taillight burned out before he replaced the offending bulb.

The Burges have driven their car on trips to Texas, Florida, South Dakota and Michigan in addition to daily local use. He reports mileage figures of 24 miles per gallon on the highway and 18 to 20 miles per gallon in town.

"It's no strain to drive this car," he says.



ORIGINAL OWNER of this 1977 Buick Regal SS has put it in semi-retirement after more than 100,000 miles of driving. Its factory job still looks new as owners have taken excellent care of the vehicle during a quarter century of use.

After more than a quarter century the Buick shows no signs of rust. "When it was driven all the time," Burge comments, "I always took it to the car wash."

In later years, the Buick wasn't driven during the winter months. "I wax it twice a year," he says. "I prefer Maguire's."

Since 1977, the car has been garaged almost every day and night which helps to explain the incredi-

bly good condition of the red paint.

"It didn't sit around dirty," Burge says. "I also keep it clean under the hood."

Oftentimes people who see the car parked on the street will marvel at the excellent condition of all the chrome, in addition to the remarkable paint and ask, "Who painted that car for you?"

Burge honestly responds, "Some guy up at General Motors

in Michigan."

With the odometer readout approaching 115,000 miles he has placed the Buick into semi-retirement, but still manages to drive it enough to keep the juices flowing and the seals lubricated.

He says he wouldn't change a thing if he were to order the car again today. He makes use of the two outside mirrors and doesn't worry about the clock keeping time

since there is no clock

"It is garaged under a tree," Burge says. "I don't want to see it in a terrible little old car."

For your car to be the subject of the Classic Classics send a photo (fronts & brief details and phone number) to Vern Parker, 2221 Abbotts

Vienna, VA 22181. Only photos of good cars will be considered.

Honda positions itself for environmental, safety leadership

MOTOR MATTERS

TOKYO — Takeo Fukui, the president of Honda Motor Co. Ltd., told a group of journalists visiting the company's research and development center outside of Tokyo that, shortly after joining the Japanese auto company in 1969, he was assigned the task of helping Honda meet the new emissions standards of the U.S. Clean Air Act.

"Unfortunately, the system I designed actually made the exhaust more toxic," he recalled with self irreverence.

"I remember Mr. (Soichiro) Honda yelling at me, 'You idiot! Don't just think about a system to treat the exhaust. Think about a clean engine system.'"

Now Fukui, who has been Honda president only since April, is reminding his 6,000 engineers at the company's research and development to think about a clean engine system and a total vehicle safety system.

"Honda is actively challenging itself to be the industry leader in both environmental and safety technology," said Fukui.

Indeed, Honda buyers, according to the company's market research, rank environment and safety, in that order, immediately

MICHELLE KREBS
She's Freewheeling

behind the quality and reliability for which Honda is already famous.

To that end, Honda demonstrated a number of future technologies to the automotive press here, some of which will be in U.S.-sold Honda vehicles soon.

A new body structure design to improve safety in collisions between vehicles of differing size and weight will go on the all-new Honda Odyssey minivan and 2005 Acura RL sedan, on sale next fall.

The design adds extra metal structure to the front of the vehicle to absorb and disperse energy in a crash. It has proven in simulated crash tests to significantly reduce injuries.

A Collision Mitigation Brake System, similar to Mercedes-Benz's pre-crash preparation system, detects when a risk of rear-ending the vehicle ahead exists.

A buzzer sounds and the word "BRAKE" appears on the instrument panel to get the

driver's attention.

If the distance between the cars continues to shrink, the system applies the brakes lightly and tightens the seatbelts a few notches.

If the driver then applies the brakes, the system assumes it is an emergency and applies full brake pressure to reduce the vehicle's speed so the crash won't be so severe. It goes into the Japanese equivalent of the Accord next June. No word on when it comes to the U.S.

An adaptive cruise control system, like those already available on several luxury models in the U.S., will go into an Acura first, but Honda wouldn't say when.

Another technology uses a camera mounted near the rear-view mirror to follow the lines in the road, and alerts the driver with a sound that the car is drifting into another lane or is easing off the edge of the road and even nudges the car back on course.

It is unlikely to come to the U.S. in its present form because road markers in the U.S. and Japan are different.

On the environmental side, a V6 engine

that runs on all six cylinders during high-output times, such as acceleration, but uses only three cylinders for highway cruising, will likely arrive in the U.S. soon.

The variable cylinder engine increases fuel economy by as much as 10 percent in city driving and 20 to 30 percent in highway driving.

Compared to a regular V6 Accord, that amounts to between 1 and 3 miles per gallon, depending on the driving conditions. General Motors has demonstrated a similar system in development for its full-size pickup trucks that cuts cylinder usage from a V8.

Honda also allowed test drives of a fuel-cell stack it has developed, instead of purchased, from fuel-cell maker Ballard. It has 20 kilowatts more power than the fuel cell in its current FCX fuel-cell car, the first fuel-cell car certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and operating in California fleets.

It takes up less space, potentially costs less and can run in cold temperatures. Honda will begin testing its new fuel-cell stack in the Northeastern U.S. this winter.

American consumers continue to see an advertising and public relations campaign to get the word out about expertise in safety and environmental technologies.

"We have a good story to tell," Elliott, Honda's American marketing manager, said. "We just haven't told it."

Towe Auto Museum monthly 'Show and Tell'

SACRAMENTO — The first "Show and Tell" at Towe Auto Museum is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. and is free. Visitors are asked to bring a car to show their lot. Rm. 200 museum parking lot, 2200 Folsom Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95811.

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Power

FROM PAGE D1

operations who helped develop the Dodge Viper. "The reason why is simple: Americans love horsepower."

"The majority of the business is driven by need," said John Coletti, director of Ford Motor Co.'s SVT program, which builds the Mustang Cobra and F-150 Lightning pickup.

"This niche is a want business. Why does someone need 500 horsepower? Why does he need titanium golf clubs? Why does he spend \$2,000 for a suit or \$300 for a bottle of wine?"

Much of the attraction to power is related to marketing, industry officials say. Most consumers understand and appreciate horsepower, and strong engines allow manufacturers to differentiate themselves in a highly competitive business. In addition, exotic, ultra-powerful cars pull people into dealership showrooms and infuse an entire brand with greater credibility — the so-called halo effect.

Moreover, unlike the automobile dark ages between 1972 and '85, manufacturers today can create big horsepower and still easily meet all emissions requirements — and sometimes even get decent gas mileage.

A new Z06 Corvette, for example, belts out 405 horsepower but can get better than 25 miles per gallon on the highway.

"The key to this door is electronics," said Matt Stone, executive editor of Motor Trend magazine. "If you look at what drives automotive progress, that is the answer. What other time could you get cars that do what they do today — on unleaded fuel?"

Thanks mainly to highly computerized engine management systems that can manipulate a motor — making it a mannerly grocery-getter at slow speeds and a road-eating beast when the throttle's down — automakers can now be red-hot fast and green.

"I don't know where the limits are," said Mark Reuss, executive director of General Motors Corp.'s performance division, which oversees Chevrolet SS, Pontiac GXP, Cadillac V-Series and Saturn Red Line vehicles.

"In a mature industry, as it fragments, this offers the opportunity for more bang for the buck, to really change a car with more exciting performance. We have to pick and choose where horsepower and performance make sense. But where we think it makes sense, we will do it."

Automakers have a huge horsepower arsenal at their disposal. The industry has seen more technological change in the last five years "than in the previous five decades," said Jean Jennings, editor-in-chief of Automobile magazine. Drivers are reaping the benefits, she said.

"When you make a car with 500 horsepower, you must have the tires, the suspension, the steering, the brakes to han-

dle it," Jennings said. "Imagine how competent a car like that is at 70. I think it just makes a better car."

This time around, the fun may last for a while, too.

Insurance companies, which helped kill muscle cars, may not stifle this outburst of horsepower, officials say. For one thing, there are more insurance companies today and greater competition. Also, many of today's high-performance enthusiasts are affluent, middle-aged men — not testosterone-charged teen-agers.

Though ultra-high-performance vehicles comprise a small niche, at least 22 cars and trucks today offer at least 450 horsepower, according to Popular Mechanics. These are a few examples from the pantheon of power:

The Porsche Carrera GT, a limited-production two-seat roadster that arrives at dealers in the next few weeks. The \$440,000, carbon-fiber speedster will be propelled, extremely, by a 603-horsepower V10 and will have a top speed of 205 mph.

The Mercedes-Benz SL65 AMG, which is based on the automaker's luxury, two-ton, two-seat roadster. Powered by a turbocharged V12, the \$180,000 car will pack 612 horsepower as well as tire-melting torque. It's due out next year.

The \$670,000 Ferrari Enzo, the industry's poster-boy for exotic excess — before the Bugatti. Sporting a 680-horsepower V12, the Enzo has a top speed over 200

mph and retina-flattening acceleration. All of the 399 Enzos that Ferrari is building already have eager owners awaiting them.

And in the less-than-\$50,000 class, the perfect exotic for Texas: The 2004 Dodge Ram SRT-10 pickup, which has a 500-horsepower V10 Viper engine under the hood and is capable of 150 mph — but not with a horse trailer behind it.

Although most people will never use it all, horsepower sells, said Matt Lineback, owner of Lineback Enterprises in Plano, which offers a range of high-performance and exotic cars.

"Beyond a little stoplight-to-stoplight acceleration, most people probably won't use it," Lineback said. "But for many drivers, I believe it boils down to power equals prestige, and in my world, prestige is not a bad word."

Keane

FROM PAGE D1

It also has a stability control system with traction control and panic brake assist. The Mercury people say this vehicle has done quite well in independent crash tests.

I found no difficulty figuring out how the sound system operates. The same applies to the climate control — which offers zone temperatures.

In some vehicles, the sound systems are so confusing that I'm afraid to change stations fearing I may never return to the same station again. The Monterey, however, is very straightforward and simple to operate.

On the road, there is more than ample power. This vehicle has a 4.2-liter V6 engine that produces only about 200 horsepower but generates 263 pounds-foot of torque in a

hurry. I've been told that later models will be able to tow up to 3,500 pounds.

There are numerous thoughtful features throughout, for example, speed-sensitive volume control of the sound system, rear-seat audio control, tri-zone temperature control, and power adjustable pedals with memory.

2004 MERCURY MONTEREY

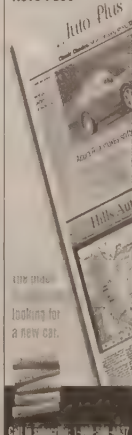
Vehicle Type	Seven-passenger four-door FWD minivan
Suggested Retail	\$34,840
Price as Tested	\$35,795
Engine Type	OHV 12-valve, 4.2-liter V6 w/SMPFI
Horsepower	201 at 4,250 rpm
Torque	263 at 3,500 rpm
Transmission	Four-speed automatic
Wheelbase	120 inches
Height	68 inches
Curb Weight	4,406 pounds
Fuel Capacity	26 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 16/22

The list of goodies goes on and on, and all are pretty much included in the base price.

My tester had a roof rack plus self-sealing tires as the only options, and the bottom line was \$35,795.

For those who want to ride in comfort in a vehicle that has dramatic styling, that price shouldn't stand in their way.

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Winterize your RV for dependable springtime performance

MOTOR MATTERS
Most every day, the average auto is left in the evening and left to its own devices until called on for the morning commu-

not that easy with an RV, especially during the winter months. The average RV owner in most of the country faces weather that either deters the use of the rig or forces us to park the rigs for months at a time.

Even boxes of non-perishable rice or other staples should be cleared from the vehicle because these can be food for hungry rodents and various insect pests.

A mild, non-abrasive, bleach-based detergent to scrub the refrigerator, sink and other places where odor-causing bacteria can breed.

After the fridge is clean and dry — and this is really important — secure its door open a bit to provide air circulation. Some fridges have a storage lock for this very

JEFF JOHNSTON
Rolling Homes

purpose, otherwise, you'll need to improvise.

In any case, if the fridge is left tightly closed, mold or mildew could grow inside. The water system needs to be drained and/or treated with potable RV antifreeze.

Open the low-point drains to empty the water system, including the drains for the water heater and the fresh tank, and make sure the gray and black tanks have likewise been dumped and flushed before starting this process.

Use a compressor and an air chuck fitting, available at RV accessory stores, to pressurize the plumbing and blow out any remaining water.

Alternatively, or in addition, add a couple of gallons of potable RV water system antifreeze to the plumbing and run the pump until it comes out of each faucet one at a time. This further protects the pipes and fittings from freeze damage.

Be sure to dump a bit of the potable antifreeze in each sink drain to treat any water initially remaining there against freeze-

ing.

Remove the battery (or batteries) from your rig and store it inside your garage or some other cool, dry spot. Place the battery on an insulating surface like a rubber or wood pad, and fully charge it before placing it in storage.

A charged battery has greater resistance to freezing damage. Connect it to a maintenance charger to keep its charge topped up.

If your RV is a motorhome, you'll need to take care of its automotive systems, as well as its living quarters.

Lube the chassis, add a preservative like Sta-Bil to the gasoline; perhaps drain and flush the cooling system; top up all vital fluids, such as power steering and brake fluids; and change the engine's oil just before it enters storage.

These are all common sense steps to ensure the powertrain is clean and problem-free when it goes to sleep.

Along the lines of keeping critters from

setting up housekeeping in your rig, an old and basic solution is a big help. Scatter a few mothballs inside cabinets and drawers to help keep critters at bay.

Remove the lower drawers in a cabinet and place a few mothballs way back inside there, back near the plumbing and wiring mess.

Do the same for the exterior storage compartments, the battery compartment and the like. It's a cheap and easy way to combat the uninvited guest problem.

Another way to temporarily seal a small opening, such as a furnace vent, is to gently stuff it with coarse steel wool. Don't push it so far in that you can't retrieve it with a small wirehook come spring.

Finally, if you use a protective cover, crack a few windows open before the cover goes on to allow for air circulation, which will that help keep mildew at bay.

It'll help your rig be fresh and ready when you bring it out of hibernation come spring.

Vacuum leak, faulty fuel-pump relay likely culprits

UNDER NEWSPAPERS

My 1991 GMC pickup has been having problems I hope you can help with. In the morning, when it has been parked overnight, it cranks for a few seconds and then stalls. When I use frequently, it cranks up. It also idles too rough. It's a bit hard to slow down. I had a code for the idle air control replaced it, but it didn't help. The manual says the idle air control is adjustable as it's controlled by the computer. I've tried to adjust it, but I can't. I've always done my own work and I don't take it into the shop.

Marc Moeller,
Kansas City, Mo.

GMC's long cranking problem is likely caused by a vacuum leak. Its fuel-pump relay system uses an electrical pump, mounted in the engine compartment, to deliver fuel to the injectors. The engine computer (ECM) controls the pump operation via an electrical relay. When the engine is crank-

BRAD BERGHOLDT
Auto QnA

ing and/or running. To enhance reliability, GM adds an engine oil pressure switch to provide a duplicate current path to the pump.

Why does the GMC crank long only sometimes? If the relay, or its request circuit should fail to function, the fuel pump will still spring to life — after engine oil pressure occurs.

This can take several seconds during a cold start, but occur almost instantly when the engine has recently run.

How can you determine if the problem is the relay or a missing ECM request? Stand near the right front corner of the truck (hood open) while a helper turns the ignition key from off to the run (only) position.

If a click is heard from the rear of the engine compartment (relay command on), then a second click two seconds later (relay operation canceled due to no engine activity), we know the request is occurring. This leaves the relay — an inexpensive, easy to replace

part — as the prime suspect.

Your fast idle condition is likely caused by a vacuum leak that exceeds the idle air control (IAC) device's corrective ability. With the air cleaner removed, locate an L-shaped, dime-diameter hole at the top/passenger side of the throttle body.

This is the IAC system's air-intake port.

With the engine idling — in park or neutral, parking brake firmly applied — try restricting the hole with the tip of your finger. If the engine slows down, we know the ECM is immediately asking for the high idle speed or the IAC device isn't responding.

This may require professional help to correct. If no

change occurs, a slow-down command and condition is occurring. (Air is entering the engine elsewhere, likely due to a vacuum leak.)

Common causes of vacuum leaks are disconnected or leaking vacuum hoses. Try spraying a stream of glass cleaner or other nonflammable liquid around the base of the throttle body with the engine idling. If a speed reduction momentarily occurs, you've found the leak.

Brad Bergholdt teaches automotive technology at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. E-mail him at under-the-hood@juno.com or write to him in care of Drive, Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95190. He cannot make personal replies.

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in their ACCAL game

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By Scott Strain

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for life

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- AUTOMATIC
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- LEATHER
- PREMIUM PACKAGE
- ALLOY WHEELS

\$5,100 off msrp

all in stock at this discount

2004 S60 SDN.



- AUTOMATIC
- LEATHER
- PREMIUM PACKAGE
- ALLOY WHEELS

MSRP \$32,090
BARBER DISCOUNT \$4,202

\$27,888

5 at this price

2004 S80 2.9 AWD ASR SDN.



MSRP \$42,455
BARBER DISCOUNT \$6,457

\$35,998

1 at this price

VOLVO OF FAIRFIELD

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10-year/100,000-mile Powertrain Protection
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5-year/Unlimited-miles 24-hr. Roadside Assistance

Warranty
available for
review at
dealership

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WE HAVE MOVED OUR
SALES & SERVICE TO THE
FAIRFIELD AUTO MALL!

2004 ACCENT COUPE

MSRP \$10,604
BARBER DISCOUNT -\$3,116
SALE PRICE \$7,488
FACTORY REBATE -\$500
NET COST TO YOU



\$6,988 2 AT THIS PRICE

2004 SONATA SDN.

POWER WINDOWS
AUX. PORT
KICK-IN SEATBELT LOCKS
AIR-LOCK

CD PLAYER
REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY
& MUCH MORE!



MSRP \$17,500
BARBER DISCOUNT -\$1,512
SALE PRICE \$15,988
FACTORY REBATE -\$1,000
VALUE OWNER COUPON * -\$1,000

\$13,988 7 AT THIS PRICE

*HYUNDAI'S VALUED OWNER COUPON. IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY A REGISTERED OWNER OF A VEHICLE DISTRIBUTED BY HYUNDAI MOTOR AMERICA, YOU CAN RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL \$1,000 OFF A NEW 2003 & 2004 HYUNDAI ELANTRA, \$1,000 OFF A NEW 2003 OR 2004 SANTA FE, SONATA OR XG350. THIS VALUED OWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM IS EFFECTIVE DEC. 1, 2003 THROUGH JAN. 1, 2004.

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100,000 MILE
WARRANTY
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5 YEARS /50,000 MILES LIMITED BASIC WARRANTY
5 YEARS/ 100,000 MILES ANTI-PERFORMANCE WARRANTY

* Warranty available for review at dealership.

2004 KIA RIO SDN.

4-CYL. 16V DOHC ENGINE
FRONT DISC/REAR DRUM
BRAKE
REAR WINDOW DEFROSTER
CENTER CONSOLE W/ CUP
HOLDERS
TINTED GLASS
INTERMITTENT FRONT WIPER
AM/FM CD PLAYER SPORT
PKG.



STK#K4055 ID#300008
STK#K4043 ID#300038

SALE PRICE \$9288
FACTORY REBATE \$500
NET COST TO YOU

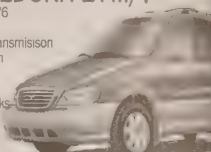
\$8,788

2 AT THIS PRICE

2004 KIA SEDONA LX M/V

3.5L 24 Valve DOHC V6

Engine
5 Speed Automatic Transmission
Dual Sliding Doors with
Dual Front Air Bags
7 Passengers Seating
Power Windows & Locks
AM/FM CD
W/ 6 Speakers
& Lots more.



MSRP \$20,615
BARBER DISCOUNT \$1,127

SALE PRICE \$19,488

FACTORY REBATE -\$1,000

HOLIDAY BONUS CASH -\$1,000

NET COST TO YOU

STK#K4024 ID#508422

STK#K4025 ID#509752

\$17,988

2 AT THIS PRICE

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*TO QUALIFY FOR OWNER LOYALTY REBATE MUST HAVE IN USE OF FACTORY REBATES. **MILITARY REBATE

BARBER KIA

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2003 TOYOTA TUNDRA or

WOW!
\$2000
FACTORY
REBATE



0% APR

FOR 60 MONTHS
ON APPROVED
CREDIT

0% APR FOR 60 MONTHS AT \$16.67 PER MONTH
PER \$1,000 FINANCED. BASED ON \$0 DOWN ON
APPROVED CREDIT THROUGH TMCC

**ALL NEW 2004 TUNDRA
FULL SIZE 4 DOORS
IN STOCK & READY
FOR DELIVERY!**



2004 COROLLA CE SDN.



STK#T40509
VIN#266710
STK#T40395
VIN#263135

- AUTOMATIC
- AIR CONDITIONER
- AM/FM WITH CD
- POWER STEERING
- & MORE!

MSRP \$14,972

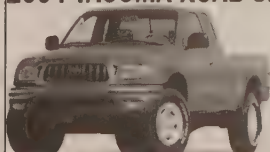
FFTOYOTA DISCOUNT -\$2,184

SALE PRICE

\$12,788

2 AT THIS PRICE

2004 TACOMA XCAB SR5 PICKUP



STK#T40317 VIN#320060
STK#T40057 VIN#306049

MSRP \$17,122

FFTOYOTA DISCOUNT -\$1,384

SALE PRICE \$15,738

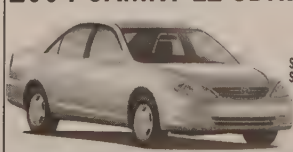
FACTORY REBATE -\$750

NET COST TO YOU

\$14,988

2 AT THIS PRICE

2004 CAMRY LE SDN.



- AUTOMATIC
- AIR CONDITIONER
- POWER WINDOWS
- POWER LOCKS
- AM/FM WITH CD

STK#T40542 VIN#287710
STK#T40526 VIN#282347

MSRP \$20,574

FFTOYOTA DISCOUNT -\$3,136

SALE PRICE

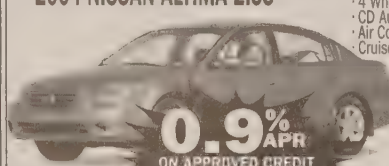
\$16,688

2 AT THIS PRICE

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SHIFT.

2004 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5S



0.9% APR

ON APPROVED CREDIT

0.9% APR FOR 60 MONTHS ON
APPROVED CREDIT THROUGH NMA. AT
\$11.25 PER \$1,000 FINANCED. BASED ON \$0 DOWN. MUST
HAVE YIELD CREDIT CHECK (YCC)

STK#N40217 VIN#150531
STK#N40219 VIN#150763
STK#N40220 VIN#150778
STK#N40264 VIN#148426

SALE PRICE

\$17,888

4 AT THIS PRICE

2004 NISSAN MAXIMA SE



- 265HP V6 Engine
- ABS
- Side Air Bags
- CD & Cassette
- 18" Alloy Wheels

Climate Control

8 way Power Seats

Power Window Locks

& Much more!

SALE PRICE

\$27,888

1 AT THIS PRICE

2004 NISSAN FRONTIER XE V6 CREW CAB LB



STK#N40238 VIN#405091

STK#N40239 VIN#405622

\$16,388

2 AT THIS PRICE

2004 NISSAN SENTRA 1.8 S SDN.



- Power Windows & Locks
- Air Conditioning
- CD Player
- Remote Keyless Entry
- Power Outside Mirrors
- & More!

STK#N40023 VIN#858760
STK#N40011 VIN#846711
STK#N40012 VIN#850173
STK#N40017 VIN#839745

\$10,988

4 AT THIS PRICE

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7 YEAR/100,000 MILE
WARRANTY**

 VOTED "BEST WARRANTY IN AMERICA"
WARRANTY AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT DEALERSHIP.

2003 SUZUKI VITARA

 MSRP \$17,319
BARBER DISCOUNT -\$3,331
SALE PRICE \$13,988
FACTORY REBATE -\$2,500
NET COST TO YOU

\$11,488
1 AT THIS PRICE

2004 SUZUKI XL-7 LX 7 PASSENGER

 Climate Control
Power & Rear Air
AM/FM CD Player
Roof Rack
Privacy Glass
Two Tone Paint

 MSRP \$22,499
BARBER DISCOUNT -\$3,504
SALE PRICE

\$18,995
5 AT THIS PRICE

2003 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 4X4

 MSRP \$22,394
BARBER DISCOUNT -\$3,906
SALE PRICE \$18,488
FACTORY REBATE -\$2,500
NET COST TO YOU

\$15,988
4 AT THIS PRICE

BARBER SUZUKI

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DODGE CHRYSLER

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AMERICA... JUST GOT BETTER!!**
**SALES
DRIVE**
2004 DODGE CARAVAN SXT

 BARBER DISCOUNT \$3,000
FACTORY REBATE -\$2,500
NET SAVINGS TO YOU

\$5,500 OFF MSRP

ALL IN STOCK AT THIS PRICE


2004 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE

 BARBER DISCOUNT \$3,000
FACTORY REBATE -\$3,500
NET SAVINGS TO YOU

\$6,500 OFF MSRP

ALL IN STOCK AT THIS PRICE


'04 DODGE RAM QUAD CAB DOUBLE PLAY
ST V8 AUTOMATIC
SLT V8 BIG HORN

 BARBER DISCOUNT \$4,000
FACTORY REBATE -\$2,500
NET SAVINGS TO YOU

\$6,500 OFF MSRP

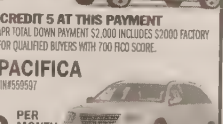
5 EACH IN STOCK AT THIS PRICE

**OVER 85 DODGE TRUCKS IN
INVENTORY!!!**
2004 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER

 MSRP \$17,985
BARBER DISCOUNT \$1,497
SALE PRICE \$16,488
FACTORY REBATE \$2,000
NET COST TO YOU

\$14,488

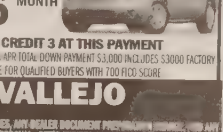
5 AT THIS PRICE


2004 CHRYSLER PACIFICA

 MSRP \$29,700
BARBER DISCOUNT -\$3,412
SALE PRICE \$26,288
FACTORY REBATE -\$2,000
NET COST TO YOU

\$23,288

3 AT THIS PRICE


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**VEHICLE REGISTRATION HIKE HAS BEEN REPEALED
NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY!**
2004 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR

 STK#LM4028 ID#J07811
STK#LM4044 ID#J08247 • LEATHER • POWER FOLD 3RD ROW SEAT

 BARBER DISCOUNT \$7,000
FACTORY REBATE -\$3,000
NET SAVINGS TO YOU

\$10,000 OFF MSRP
2 AT THIS SAVINGS

**ALL 2003
LINCOLN
AVIATORS**

 FACTORY REBATE \$4,000
BONUS CASH \$500

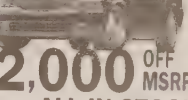
 *FMCC BONUS CASH \$1000
BARBER DISCOUNT \$5,500
NET SAVINGS TO YOU

\$11,000 OFF MSRP


ALL IN STOCK

**ALL 2003
LINCOLN LS**

 FACTORY REBATE \$4,000
*FMCC BONUS CASH \$2,000
BARBER DISCOUNT \$6,000
NET SAVINGS TO YOU

\$12,000 OFF MSRP


ALL IN STOCK

*Must finance through FMCC to qualify for FMCC bonus cash.

OVER 300 QUALITY PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

CARS • TRUCKS • MINIVANS • SUVs

'98 MITSUBISHI MONTERO SPORT SUV STK#S3099A VIN#045101 ONLY ONE	'03 HYUNDAI ACCENT SDN. STK#M20269 VIN#260067 ONLY ONE	'99 FORD RANGER SUPERCAB P/U CANOPY STK#M20269 VIN#260067 PREVIOUS RENTAL ONLY ONE	'00 NISSAN ALTIMA SE SDN. STK#M20269 VIN#260067 PREVIOUS RENTAL ONLY ONE
\$5,995	\$6,995	\$8,495	\$9,995
'00 DODGE MARK III CONVERSION VAN QUAD CAPTAIN CHAIRS STK#A32988 VIN#129325	'02 DODGE INTREPID SE SDN. STK#M20269 VIN#260067 ONLY ONE	'02 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER WGN. STK#M20269 VIN#260067 PREVIOUS RENTAL ONLY ONE	'00 FORD MUSTANG CONVERT. CPE STK#M20269 VIN#260067 PREVIOUS RENTAL ONLY ONE
\$9,995	\$11,995	\$12,995	\$12,995
'03 NISSAN XTRERA SUV CONVERTIBLE STK#M20269 VIN#260067 PREVIOUS RENTAL ONLY ONE	'03 TOYOTA CAMRY LE SDN. STK#M20269 VIN#260067 ONLY ONE	'03 CHEVY TAHOE 4X4 V8 SUV FOR EQUIPMENT STK#M20269 VIN#260067 PREVIOUS RENTAL ONLY ONE	'02 LINCOLN LS SDN. LEATHER INTERIOR STK#M20269 VIN#260067 PREVIOUS RENTAL ONLY ONE
SAVE \$14,995	\$14,995	\$28,995	\$22,988

BARBER VALLEJO

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 The Infiniti G35. With an award-winning V6, racing-inspired aerodynamics and a drive-by-wire throttle, this is one sport sedan that can't wait to make an entrance. To learn more, visit our showroom or click on infiniti.com.

2004 Infiniti G35 Sedan
 Feature Price \$27,995
 at this price*
 250 hp V6
 Vehicle Dynamic Control
 Available pop-up GPS Navigation System
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 340HP Muscle Car
 With Rear
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DIRECT
LENDING**
USED 2003 MITSUBISHI LANCER

 • AUTOMATIC
 • AIR CONDITIONER
 • POWER WINDOWS &
 LOCKS
 • TILT WHEEL
 • CRUISE CONTROL
 • CD PLAYER

\$9,988
1 at this price

 STK#MP1062 VIN#071371
PREVIOUS RENTAL

USED 2003 MITSUBISHI GALANT ES SDN.

 • AUTOMATIC
 • AIR CONDITIONER
 • POWER WINDOWS & LOCKS
 • CD PLAYER
 • TILT
 • CRUISE

\$11,988
1 at this price

 STK#MB0082 VIN#131007
PREVIOUS RENTAL

2004 LANCER ES SDN.

 • AIR CONDITIONING
 • POWER WINDOWS & LOCKS
 • CD PLAYER

\$11,988
3 at this price

 STK#MV4021
VIN#019783
STK#M40047
VIN#020875
STK#M40084
VIN#023045

 MSRP \$14,972
BARBER DISCOUNT \$2,484
SALE PRICE \$12,488
FACTORY REBATE -\$500
NET COST TO YOU

"Wake Up & Drive" for

2004 ENDEAVOR SUV.

 • POWER WINDOWS & LOCKS
 • CRUISE CONTROL
 • V6 3.8L
 • PREMIUM AM/FM CD PLAYER

\$19,988
2 at this price

 STK#M40032
VIN#023059
STK#M40035
VIN#026623

 MSRP \$26,192
BARBER DISCOUNT \$4,204
SALE PRICE \$21,988
FACTORY REBATE -\$2,000
NET COST TO YOU

"Wake Up & Drive" for

2003 MONTERO LTD. SUV

 • BARBER DISCOUNT - \$5,000
 • FACTORY REBATE - \$4,000
 NET SAVINGS TO YOU

2003 DIAMANTE SDN.

 • BARBER DISCOUNT - \$5,000
 • FACTORY REBATE - \$4,000
 NET SAVINGS TO YOU

\$9,000
OFF MSRP

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What are

YOU driving?

Auto Plus

Friday, August 24, 2001

Section D

Advertising supplement to The Montclair, The Piedmont, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Classic Classics: MGB still going strong [D3]

DAVE VAN SICKLE

Most gas-saving gadgets fall short of touted claims

When gasoline prices begin to rise to do motorists' concerns, manufacturers are quick to offer gadgets that promise to save gas. But a new study by the U.S. Department of Energy found that most of these gadgets fall short of their claims. The study, which was part of a larger effort to evaluate the effectiveness of various energy-saving technologies, found that only a few of the gadgets actually saved gas. The study also found that many of the gadgets were either ineffective or even harmful. For example, some of the gadgets that were tested included air filters, fuel additives, and tire pressure gauges. The study found that most of these gadgets did not save gas, and some even increased fuel consumption. The study also found that many of the gadgets were either ineffective or even harmful. For example, some of the gadgets that were tested included air filters, fuel additives, and tire pressure gauges. The study found that most of these gadgets did not save gas, and some even increased fuel consumption.



ACURA RSX TYPE-S is a fun, fire sports car to drive. It's much smoother and less noisy than expected. The ride is a bit bouncy, but steering is easy.

Acura RSX makes shifting much more enjoyable

TOM KEANE

In spite of summer's heat, the hot little 2002 Acura RSX Type-S is a fun, fire sports car to drive. It's much smoother and less noisy than expected. The ride is a bit bouncy, but steering is easy. The car's performance is impressive, especially for a compact car. It has a 200-horsepower 2.0-liter four-cylinder VTEC engine, which is not powerful, but it's a lot of fun to drive. The car's handling is also excellent, and it's very easy to steer. The RSX is a great car for anyone who wants a fun, fire sports car.

Testing around turns took a lot of time, but it was worth it. The RSX is a fun, fire sports car to drive. It's much smoother and less noisy than expected. The ride is a bit bouncy, but steering is easy. The car's performance is impressive, especially for a compact car. It has a 200-horsepower 2.0-liter four-cylinder VTEC engine, which is not powerful, but it's a lot of fun to drive. The car's handling is also excellent, and it's very easy to steer. The RSX is a great car for anyone who wants a fun, fire sports car.

New, used or classic... every Friday in Auto Plus.

HILLS NEWSPAPERS

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THE PIEDMONT • ALAMEDA JOURNAL

Employment



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You can do it with Western Career College. Dental Assisting, Massage Therapy, Medical Admin, Assisting, Medical Billing, Pharmacy Technology, Veterinary Technology, Vocational Nursing.
A new career for YOU! Train for an exciting career at Silicon Valley College, Graphic Arts, AutoCAD, Biotechnology, IT Medical, Assisting, Pharmacy Tech & Massage Therapy programs. Assoc. degrees available. Tool Main Campus: Fremont, w/branches in: San Jose, Emeryville, Walnut Creek. Not all programs available at all locations. 800-906-5600 Dept. 22911

Domestics

ALOT of Nanny jobs! Call MOMS AWAY. 925-974-9367. 510-529-9105.
BABYSITTER: 3 boys, 11 yrs., Byrs, 5 mos., Tue-Fri. hrs. 925-959-7560.
CAREGIVER: Antioch, live-in, skidgrnd, ch, flex hrs. Have CDL. 925-757-4809.
CAREGIVER male Quid needs care Sat., Sun. 10am-noon. Exp. only. Organized, gd. pay, live local. Antioch. 925-354-6667. 1/m. 925-354-6667.
CAREGIVER needed. Patero Ave. Richmond, live-in. Care for elderly woman. Light housekeeping & cooking, small dog, room & board + salary. References necessary. Ask for Carol 925-273-0780 or 916-777-5691.
CHILD CARE P.M. in home, experience preferred. flex days 925-200-7315.
DRIVER: DANVILLE Pick up kids from school, help w/ homework, Eng. speaking, proven driving record, refs. 15 hrs. week, afternoons from 2pm-6pm. Pay negot. 925-736-9480.
GREAT Orinda kids looking for loving nanny! Clean DMV & gd. Eng. skills req. Gd. pay. F/T 925-360-9462.
HOUSEKEEPER: for older Piedmont resident, wkly. \$15/hr. 916-655-1159.
LIVE-IN caregiver for elderly facility in Antioch, Sat & Sun. 925-758-0114.
LIVE-IN needed to care for elderly. \$1400/mo. + rm. & board. 925-674-8785.
LIVE-IN/SALARY, Alameda, companion/caregiver for woman, driver's lic. refs. 1v. & 916-665-6666.
NANNIES needed F/T live-in-out. Care Alameda. 925-056-6882; 900-795-6629.
NANNY: Benicia, 2 boys ages 4 & 11, youngest has special needs. P/T, speak English, CDL, exper., & refs. nec. (707) 747-9410.
NANNY: F/T for 4 mo. old, start Jan. Ried. CDL. 916-655-4700.
NANNY needed P/T for 2 1/2 yr. old & 6 mo. old, for Mon. mornings & 30-12:30 & Wed. afternoon. 2-5pm. Exper. & ref. req. POSITION FILLED.
NANNY: F/T 12 hrs. wk., Danv., mornings & early afternoons 925-937-9132.
NURSING Attendant for quadriplegic. P/T, Exp. pref. W.C. 925-288-1125.
TUTOR Wanted for Math & English. Mon-Fri 2 hours per day. In my home in Livermore 925-371-8288.
Home Health Care
CUSTOMER SERVICE Regular PT Start Now M-F, 1:30-8:00 + Sat or Sun 9-5; cust. satisfaction surveys, no sales. No work 11/27-28, 12/24-26, 58.00. Call 925-246-7200. Envoy, 2150 John Glenn Drive, #200, Concord.

Employment

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Accountant-Tax Mgr. Armstrong, Bagnasco & Associates, LLP seeks CPA tax mgr. Must be strong in areas of estate & high net worth individual planning. Min. 4+ years public exp. Send res. & sal. req's to: 925-959-7560.
ACCOUNTING Account Receivable in busy Livermore Off. 2 yrs exp. 925-959-7560. Web ID CC112553347
ACTIVITY PROFESSIONAL Bay Park Retirement Center who thrives on multiple off tasks & cust. serv. Must be energetic, outgoing, work or volunteer exp. w/seniors req'd. 925-959-7560 or fax resume 510-222-5019.
ADMINISTRATIVE ASST. East Bay Office. Comp. Regs. gd. org. skills, math aptitude, ability to prioritize. Must be accurate, detail oriented, dependable. Excellent salary. Call 925-959-7560 or fax resume 510-222-5019.
ADMINISTRATIVE ASST. P/T Elder care co. needs prof. nature who thrives on multiple off tasks & cust. serv. Must be energetic, outgoing, work or volunteer exp. w/seniors req'd. 925-959-7560 or fax resume 510-222-5019.
ADMINISTRATIVE ASST. San Leandro based sales Admin. Asst. w/s exp. using Word, Power Point, Map Point, Visio, Adobe Photo Shop, Adobe Illustrator, PDF, Gd. Live. Data Entry skills. Will be tested for proof of skills. Good comm. skills req'd. to interface w/sales force daily. 10-15 hr. by 10am, 50 Wk. sal + bnfts, med. dental, vision. Call Mike at 925-959-7560 or fax resume 510-222-5019.
ADULT DAY PROGRAM Training developmentally disabled adults. Must have educational skills in Dublin. Salary \$560-0125 or call 925-959-7560-0124.
ADVERTISING/SALES Going Crazy! Fast growing mktg. firm seeks 5-10 individuals for entry lvl. openings. Work w/out exec. sports, hotel & travel. Must have exp. in Mktg., CSR, Sales & Mgt. Trng. Trng. provided. Call Angela 925-959-7560 or fax resume 510-222-5019.
Advertising/Sales Trader Publishing is currently recruiting for a F/T outside sales exec. in the East Bay area. If you're looking for a challenging sales posit., where you get to take advantage of your outgoing personality & strong closing skills, look no further. We are part of one of the Nation's largest publishers & we're looking for an energetic & enthusiastic person with selling (retail, inside or outside) & closing skills who is looking for a new career. Excel. pay plan & bnfts. pkg. incl. 401K, M-F days. Fax resume to GSM at 925-416-6176 or email: ken.wagner@theadvertiser.com Web ID CC112752740
AIR CONDITIONING Comm. HVAC CO. seeks East Bay Journey Level Techs. Top pay/bnfts. Fax resume 925-970-8088 or call 1-800-739-6500
AIRCON MECHANICAL Web ID CC120353331
ALARM DISPATCHER Walnut Creek Company Various hours. Will train. Bnfts. Call 925-935-2688
ALBANY
X-Mas Cash! 3200-5400 PER DAY Passing out promotional packages for Montronics & GE. No exp. nec. training provided. Enthusiastic & motivated people only. Call 925-680-1666

Employment

APARTMENT MANAGER TEAM
We are seeking a two person, professional TEAM to manage/oversee two unit apartment community in Dublin. One team member must have 5+ yrs. exp. in leasing and management. The other team member would need excel. skills for the maintenance repairs, turnover and janitorial duties. Must have own tools and auto. Utilities, Bnfts, Apt. & Bnfts. Fax resume to 650-598-9094.
APARTMENT RESIDENTIAL MANAGER
Seeking exper. on-site manager w/strong maintenance skills for single Concord apartment complex w/laundries & pool. English/Spanish essential. Compensation includes exp. resume to 510-452-2973.
Apartment Resident Manager
Large company seeking mgr. who thrives on an on site position at a Concord area communit. Previous apt. management exp. req. Fax resume to 927-447-1758.
ASSISTED LIVING
Reminiscence Coordinator Resp. for recruiting, supervising team members. 2-3 yrs. exp. in assisted living. 925-959-7560.
ASSISTED LIVING
Needed for Senior Living Center. Must be accurate, detail oriented, dependable. Excellent salary. Call 925-959-7560 or fax resume 510-222-5019.
AUTOMOTIVE
Collision center seeking gen. rel. admin. Must have est. management exp. & 5+ yrs. exp. in competitive pay pkg. Must have clean driving record. Fax resume to 925-959-7560 or fax resume 510-222-5019.
AUTOMOTIVE
Master Import Techn. fully ASE certified with 10+ yrs. exp. Must have clean driving record. Walnut Creek Honda is a busy dealership that offers a high flat rate hourly base plus an excellent family benefit plan. Please no calls just fax resume to 925-959-7560 or fax resume 510-222-5019.
AUTOMOTIVE
OILSTOP, a leader in the oil change industry, is growing in Contra Costa & is looking for enthusiastic team players. Consistent job history, proven people skills, no mechanical exp. nec. Must have clean driving record & 50+ hrs. possible bonuses. Fully paid medical bnfts for you and your dependents. 401K plan. Paid vacation/Holidays.
1130 Burnett Ave. Ste G Concord, CA 94520
Phone 925-603-1200
Fax 925-827-4166
Web ID CC112351208
AUTOMOTIVE SALES
Experience needed. Spanish speaking a plus, but not required. Great work environment. Medical, Dental, Vision Insurance. 401K Plan. Call 925-678-8800.
CONCORD CHRYSLER
Web ID CC1120507324
AUTOMOTIVE TECH.
Prestigious Stead Cadillac in Walnut Creek seeks highly motivated technicians w/out skil levels. Call Wm for appt. 925-934-9300 or fax resume 925-934-9306.
Web ID CC1122519815
AUTO SALES: Exp'd, motivated. Good loc. Potential to make excel. income. Health bnfts. Call Mike or DJ. 510-888-9500.
Web ID CC1204539399
AUTO SALES
Looking for a home, promoting from within. VERY HIGH INCOME Full Benefits Paid Vacation
Ron Goode Toyota 510-922-6400
Ask for Joe or Joe
Web ID CC1126524458

Employment

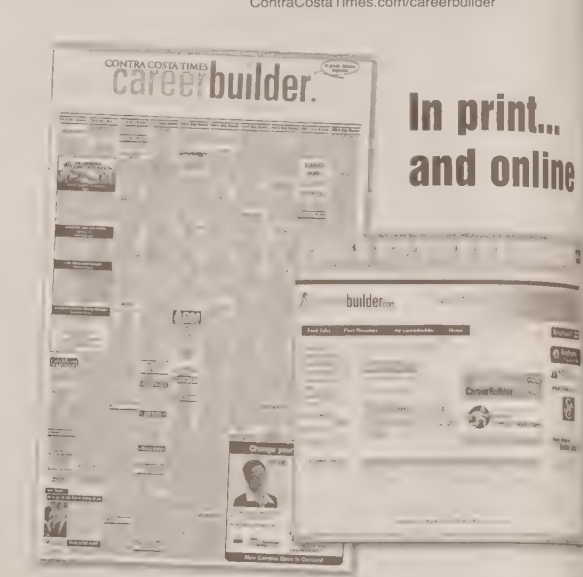
AUTO SHOP helper/clean up/delivery. Clean DMV. Apply in person at: 1425 Auto Center Dr. W.C. Web ID CC113442228
BARTENDER/TRAINEE \$750 day potential. Local poss. 600-291-3885. 100% Web ID CC113442228
BOOKKEEPER/ADMIN. ASST. P/T, 10-15 hrs/wk. Min. 3 yrs. exp. in P/T Pro/Word/Excel for Pleasanton. 925-959-7560. Email resume/sal. to: rossmon@aol.com.
BOOKKEEPER/ADMIN. W.C. Exp. in A/R, A/P, payroll, gen. ledger. Efficient in Word & Excel. Must be a builder software. Fax res. 925-256-8750 or email: cackrum@kacecon.net Web ID CC120530304
BOOKKEEPER / Cust. Svc. Must know QuickBooks. Lvrmo. Call 925-455-4955
BOOKKEEPER: Full Charge Bkpr needed for 7 restaurant chain. Must be able to do monthly fin. statements, quarterly fin. gen. ledger & other payables & back reconciling. Send resume by Fax to 650-524-4847.
BOOKKEEPER/MANAGER For Ins. Agency w/mgmt. exp. QuickBooks, 3 yrs. exp. ins. lic. w/valid F.A.R. Web ID CC120533320
CABLE TECH & Installer Req. Duties incl. connect. outlets & convert. exp. wiring on polls, able lift 70 lbs. tools & truck a plus. able to complete written paperwork. H.S. Diploma, valid CDL, ins. & print out 925-459-9101 Web ID CC120531209
CABLE TV Installer. Must have own tools. Valid CDL. Exp. only. Call Sean. 925-660-3885 Web ID CC116509668
CAREGIVER for elder care, 1 yr. exp. or CHA/PHA req'd. Bnfts avail. 925-687-9111
CAREGIVERS: P/T, Flex. Home Instead Senior Care. Call 925-427-0400.
CAREGIVER needed. Seeking mature-minded, kind-hearted caregiver for in-home care. Hourly pay, 40 hrs. wk. 401K, Avail. wknds. & valid CDL required. Call Vending Angels 925-552-6900 Web ID CC113501850
CARE PROVIDER for boys group home. Valid CDL, cook & clean. Exp. Back ground ch. trans. & interview. 925-625-9552 Web ID CC1202530642
CARPENTER WANTED Remodel/framing. Call Gene. 925-299-0435
CASHIER, P.H. Shell. Exp. req'd. P/T, 10-15 hrs/wk. yard shifts 925-330-1309
CASHIER San Ramon loc. High volume gift shop + coffee bar has immediate opening for right person. P/T, part time. Fax resume, commission/profit share. Call 925-959-7560 or fax resume 510-222-5019.
CASHIER/Shell Alameda, Danville, Dublin, Pleasanton, Fremont, Bnfts. avail. 925-963-7223/925-998-3629/925-963-1761
CASHIERS work in new gas station in S.R. gd. pay & bnfts Tina 925-754-7735
CATERING DELIVERY: Mon-Fri. 9-noon \$11/hr. own car/ins. 925-942-0134
CHILD CARE ASST.: P/T. Mature minded, own transp. Jennifer 925-678-8854
CLASS A Driver. Gen. constr. exp. & Bobcat operator. Fax res 208-2295 Web ID CC112651571
COACH(head) swim team 275 kids Orinda Park Pool aig@mcdonaldscapital.com Web ID CC1128524495
COMPUTER Repair Mobile computer repair Tech. PT to start 4 yrs. Exp. req'd. Good comm. skills & reliable trans. a must. Send res bapcd@comcast.net or call 3354 Woodhaven Ln., Concord, CA 94520 Questions: 925-681-0502. PC Doctor
CONSTRUCTION
Bay area homebuilder has position for ass. back-end superintendent in Vallejo. Immediate Hire & Experienced only need apply. Competitive salary & benefits. Fax resume to 925-971-8890
CONSTRUCTION. Estab. co. seeks Gen. Contractors. Min. 10yr. exp. lic. ins., prof. excel. people skills, & own tools. 510-339-1616
CONSTRUCTION: P/T, exp. in all phases of const. own transp., independent contractor. 925-256-6862

Employment

CONSTRUCTION
Join a fast paced, rapidly growing company! Shea Homes is looking for individuals with exp. in the home-building, residential industry to fill the following positions:
*Customer Service Representative - Half Moon Bay
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We offer the following benefits:
*Great healthcare package with low premiums
*401K with company match
*Flexible Work Schedule
*Education Reimbursement
*And Much More!
Please email resume to: Shea Homes Attn: Sheryl Rego rego@sheahomes.com For more opportunities www.sheahomes.com
CONSTRUCTION
Sacramento area progressive New Home Builder looking for Director of Purchasing to manage purchasing dept. Builder will close between 400 to 600 units per year. Looking for aggressive, organized individuals with construction experience. Compensation competitive for industry. Builder plans to expand into new markets, therefore, other requirements: Excel and/or Lotus 123 preferred, JD Edwards or similar accounting software experience. Send resumes to 916-608-9940
CONTRACTOR install tubular skylights for active CA gen. lic. ins. provide customers & you provide the skills. Make \$60K+/yr. if you are in the TriValley area. Call SolaraBrite 925-600-1400
CONTROLLER for Oakland Real Estate Investment Group. Exp. req'd. Fax resume to 510-452-3005
COOK: For Nursing Home. AM/PM shifts. 1 yr. exp. health & bnfts incl. Fax 510-258-9695
COUNSELOR/Care Mgr. Services for parolees. Sub Abuse Cert. req. Fax resume to 415-499-1912
COUNSELORS Entry/Adv. AM/PM shifts. 1 yr. exp. in Solano. Exp. w/ justice, grp/indiv. counsel. Fax Res. to 415-499-1912
COUNSELORS: F/T Res/OP drug lic. Res/indiv. cert. M.A./Lic. prof. fax 415-499-1912
CRAFT booth attendant. P.H., Till Xmas. F/T-P/T. flex hrs. 408-315-0564
CUSTOMER SALES SVC Students & all 18+ POST HOLIDAY WORK \$15.00 base+apt No exp nec. *Flexible hrs. *APPLY NOW! *Conditions apply *Hrs/wk. 10-15 hrs. Call 11am-6pm 925-969-7540 Web ID CC1128528821
CUSTOMER SERVICE AUTHORIZATION REP P/T positions available. Various hours, wknds. a must. Hvy. phones, excit. typing & phone skills req. Warranty &/or household systems a plus. Fax res. to 925-210-8407 or email ogandera@fcd.com
EDITORIAL/REVIEW Need Asst. Ops. Mgr. to assist franchise owners in the successful growth of their bus. Resp: training, walk thru, inspections. Looking for multi task person Day time with some nights! Bilingual a plus. Sal. comm. bnfts. car allowance. 401K. Fax resumes (925) 588-2493
CUSTOMER SERVICE Perfect Temp Job! Start Now 10 positions avail thru 12/30, surveys, no sales, 6:00 AM - 2:30 PM. Monday-Friday. No work 11/27-28, 12/24-26, 58.00. Call 925-246-7200. Envoy, 2150 John Glenn Drive, #200, Concord.
CUSTOMER SERVICE P/T \$12/hr TO START Loc. Concord co. has P/T eves. & wk-end posit. avail. in Cust. Svc. We offer gd. pay, flex sched., fun atmosphere, & performance bonuses. No exp. necessary. Call 925-363-4902
Customer Svc-Showroom LI. Phones, Order Entry. Fax 925-676-8854 Web ID CC120535694

Check out the biggest job board in the East Bay.

CONTRA COSTA TIMES
careerbuilder
ContraCostaTimes.com/careerbuilder



Tired of looking at old job postings? CareerBuilder has fresh job postings every 30 days.

CareerBuilder in print and online features more Bay Area career opportunities than any other source.

What do you need to be haute?

Look inside for local advertising circulates every Friday

Tote cuisine beyond the obvious sands

Shopping Plus

From haute cuisine to haute couture, Shopping Plus every Friday.

HILLS NEWSPAPERS
THE BERKELEY VOICE • THE JOURNAL • THE MONTCLARION
THE PIEDMONT • ALAMEDA JOURNAL

East Bay Job Listings as of 11 AM, Wednesday, November 26

Search Criteria	careerbuilder	Monster	Hol
Walnut Creek	3411	270	130
Oakland	4000	2587	1000

Employers:

See why East Bay recruiters prefer CareerBuilder to any other online job board. Call the Contra Costa Newspapers' Recruitment Team at (925) 977-8503.

CONTRA COSTA TIMES HILLS NEWSPAPERS

ContraCostaTimes.com

What do

you need to be haute?

SHOPS AND SERVICES OF THE EAST BAY

Shopping Plus

Friday, December 28, 2001

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

Look inside for local advertising circulars every Friday

Tote cuisine: beyond the bologna sandwich

BY MARIA GALLAGHER

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PUTTING AWAY THE LUNCH BAG. PHOTO BY PHILIPPA WOLFE

BROWN BAG LUNCHES don't have to be limited to peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Will some imagination, you can enjoy a

salad, some grapes and sparkling water. Don't forget the utensils, and use real napkins, please.

More bread shops will slice

speciously loaves for sandwiches.

Freeze sliced breads at peak

freshness, by wrapping them in

plastic.

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From haute cuisine to haute couture, Shopping Plus every Friday.

HILLS NEWSPAPERS

THE BERKELEY VOICE • THE JOURNAL • THE MONTCLARION
THE PIEDMONT • ALAMEDA JOURNAL

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Boat Rentals & Charters
BOAT DOCK for lease, Discover Bay
\$1000/year. 925-634-9439

Campers & Shells
OLDER 10' Fully Self contained, 7000lb, with truck & 2000. Both very gd. cond. 925-686-2357

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PUBLIC AUCTION
Auto Lien Sales, Sat. Dec. 6
OPEN 8-Auction 10AM
6777 Brentwood Blvd
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CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION COUNCIL

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TAX DEDUCTIBLE CAR BOAT RV CYCL AND REAL ESTATE CALL TODAY FOR IMMEDIATE PICKUP!

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AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION
Donor your car, boat, truck, RV or cycle. Earn fair market value on your donation. Children's Asthma Fund. Make your donation to the people you know & trust.

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Donation Star Local Donorship Agency. Available on Request Same Day Use Application

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SUZUKI 2000 J550, excel cond. Great Beginner Bike! 925-625-5336

SUZUKI 1985 LT500R Quad Racer, grt. shape, extras. \$2000. 925-778-3209.

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CHEVROLET 1995 Astro cargo, rlt, gd. cond. AT, A/C. \$3500. 925-609-8166

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CHEVROLET 1989 Step Van postal truck, great work vehicle. \$11K. 925-887-8502.

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CHRYSLER 1995 T & C LXI, 1981, excel. 106K mil., new tires, 925-887-8502.

Travel Trailers

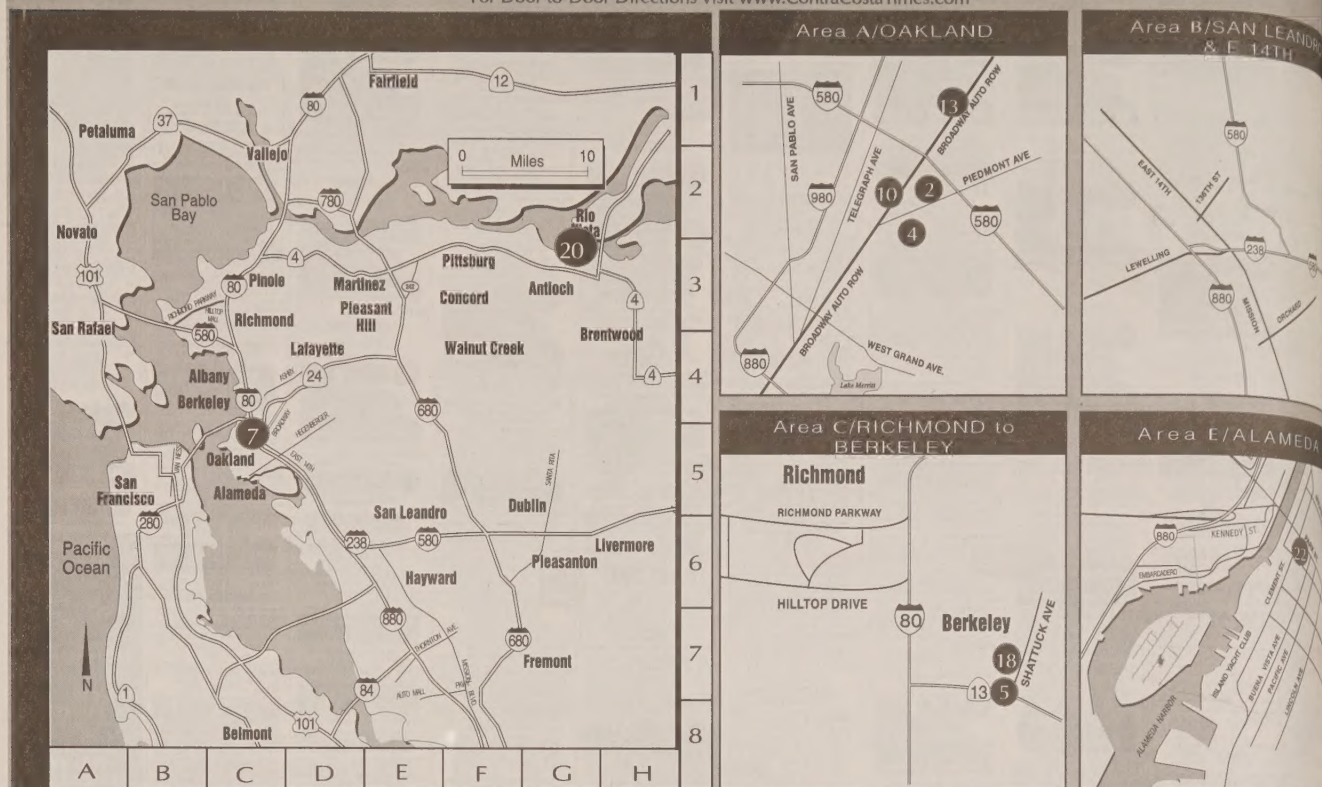
'88 Wilderness 31' obl d, 1985, 925-887-8502.

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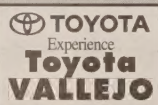
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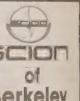
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